position and they should instruct the concerned State Governments to release everybody and stop the arrears.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Reported Decision of Government to close down eight PSUs

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now there is a Calling Attention Motion. Mr. Gurudas Das Gupta, you please call the attention of the Minister of Industry.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Industry to the reported decision of the Government to close down eight PSUs.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): Sir, the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has at one stage or the other, come to prima facie/final conclusion that it would be just and equitable to wind up 7 PSUs under the Department of Heavy Industry namely, Mining & Allied Machinery Corpn. Ltd. (MAMC), National Bicycle Corpn. of India Ltd. (NBCIL), Cycle Corporation of India Ltd. (CCIL), Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd. (BOGL), National Instruments Ltd. (NIL), Weighbird India Ltd. (WIL) & Tannery and Footwear Corpn. of India Ltd. (TAFCO). In the case of Rehabilitation Industries Corpn. Ltd. (RIC), the Disinvestment Commission has recommended discontinuance of operations and announcing a package for employees. As a result, 8 PSUs are facing the prospect of being wound up.

The number of employees in these PSUs is around 10,500 with an annual wage bill of about Rs. 73 cr. Their turnover in 1997-98 was Rs. 27 cr. with a net loss of Rs. 148 cr. even after excluding Govt. interest. The accumulated loss as on 31.3.1997 was Rs. 2065 cr. Government has provided Rs. 708 cr. upto 31.3.1997 to these PSUs.

BIFR appoints an operating, agency (OA) for preparation of a revival scheme and sanctions a revival scheme in case a viable and acceptable scheme emerges. However, if a viable and acceptable revival plan does not emerge, BIFR comes to a prima-facie conclusion that it would be just and equitable to wind up a company. BIFR's proceedings are quasi-judicial.

In the eventuality of winding up, compensation under the Industrial Disputes Act, equal to 15 days of wages for each completed year of service, would be too meagre to provide sustenance to the workers. With a view to mitigating the hardship of employees and to obviate the need for payment of idle wages, Government has taken a decision to extend the benefits of VRS to the employees in these PSUs. A similar decision was taken by the Government earlier in Sept. 1997 in respect of the Bharat Process and Mechanical Engineers Ltd. (BPME) where BIFR had given its final recommendation for winding up. Benefits of VRS are substantially higher, ex-gratia being equal to 45 days of pay for each completed year of srevice, and would be available immediately whereas compensation under winding up would take a long time to get settled. In addition, Government have also decided to pay along with the VRS benefits, all their entitlement towards statutory dues. The amount approved by the Govt. for these PSUs is Rs. 517 cr.

The Govt's decision to extend VRS benefits to the employees of sick PSUs provides a more humane and practical solution to the problems of sick PSUs facing the prospect of winding up. The final winding up or otherwise of these units will be as per the decision of BIFR/ Courts.

I may assure the Hon'ble Members that my Government would not stand in the way of eventual revival for any of these PSUs if a revival scheme is sanctioned by BIFR. The Government have been supporting revival of viable

PSUs. In fact the Government have already agreed to provide fresh cash infusion of Rs. 382 cr. along with write off of Rs. 1250 cr. and conversion of loan of Rs. 285 cr. into equity/debentures in the case of nine other sick PSUs under the Department of Heavy Industry for which revival schemes have been sanctioned by BIFR. These are under implementation, benefiting about 25,500 employees. Madam, since our friend has made a reference to what is happening in the adjacent States regarding the imposition of Section 144, I wish to inform the House that the Government is deeply concerned at the call given by the National Convention of the Committee of Public Sector Trade Unions for a proposed strike on the 11th of December.

Over a 10-point charter of demands, it is observed that the demands relate to major elements of economic policy, which have been evolved in our country over several years by the successive Governments. While pursuing the path of economic reforms, which are essential for the country, the present Government has shown its utmost concern and sympathy towards protection of the interests of the workers and employees of the public sector undertakings, whether it is a case for privatisation, setting up of joint ventures by PSUs, revival of sick public undertakings, revision of wages etc., the steps taken by the Government have been in the best interest of the employees as well as the country as a whole. The Government has always kept in mind the interest of the workers of PSUs and it is not at all necessary for them to adopt any agitational path to focus attention on their grievances.

SHRI MD. SALIM (West Bengal): Madam, we have the right to seek clarifications.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU (West Bengal): Madam, he should have circulated his speech.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him finish, then I will ask. Okay? Kindly take your seat. Let him finish first.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: As disruption of production and public services will result in widespread inconvenience to the general public and damage to the economy, I appeal to the employees to reconsider their move to observe a strike on 11th December, 1998.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu): Madam, I am raising a point of order on the Statement. *(Interruptions)*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me hear one by one.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Madam, I am raising a point of order as to what kind of statement has been submitted by the hon. Minister. In case it is a *suo moto* statement, it means the copy should have been distributed to us. He has not done so. I would like to know the reason for this.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: It is only a part of the statement that I was making; and I was reacting to what the hon. Member had said.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: What is the part of the statement? We do not have that part. Madam, if the observation is part of the statement....

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Madam, it has to be circulated. It is a written statement and we should get a copy of that statement. Since he was making a statement regarding the Calling Attention, that means only one part has been distributed to us.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: I was reacting to the hon. Member, who had made a certain statement.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Madam, rules are very clear on this. We have a copy of the statement. If it is a written statement, it should be circulated to us.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Madam, we must be allowed the right to seek clarifications.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. What is your point of order?

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Kerala): Madam, the hon. Minister was sitting here when our colleague, Mr. Jibon Roy raised the issue. He never reacted. Madam, the point I am raising here is when Mr. Jibon Roy had raised the issue, the hon. Minister was sitting here. At that time, he never reacted. The Leader of the House, the Industry Minister, never reacted. After the Calling Attention matter has been taken up and after the statement has been read by the Industry Minister, he cannot make any appendix to that statement, particularly, on an issue which is not a part of it.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: Madam, I have no objection to distribute among Members the additional portion which I have read, along with the Calling Attention matter.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: When we have started the discussion, we must have the right to seek clarifications.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Madam, after the Calling Attention matter, if the Minister wants to make a statement, he has every right to make a statement. He cannot come in between... *(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have said it and I have heard it. I have understood the spirit of your statement. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Pranab Mukherjee wants to say something.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Regarding the submission made by the hon. Member, it has become a *fait accompli*. We must have the right to seek clarifications on the statement.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, I had called the attention of the Industry Minister May I be allowed to make a short submission on this?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): Gurudasji, before you start, I would just like to seek a clarification. Calling Attention matter is dealt with by Rule 180 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States. It says that the Member calls the attention of the Minister in charge on a specific issue. The Minister makes the statement, then, it is for Members to seek clarifications on the basis of the statement made by the Minister. Here, Mr. Gurudas Das Gupta, had called the attention of the Industry Minister in regard to the closure of several sick public sector enterprises spread over different parts of the country. He did not draw the attention or call the attention of the Minister to the proposed strike which is going to take place tomorrow or the day after tomorrow. Therefore, I would like to seek a clarification from Minister on this point. As the Industry Minister and as the Leader of the House he is entitled to make a statement at any point of time. It is his privilege. But it should not be mixed up with the Calling Attention matter because this Calling Attention matter is on a specific subject and that subject is in regard to the closure of several public sector units.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: Madam, now may I just say something?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have already spoken.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: In case it is a remark ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Virumbi, how many points you would make?

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, I had called the attention of the Industry Minister. Since he made a statement on something which is not there in the Calling Attention matter, I don't mind about it. He could have done it ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is not a question of your minding. It is a question of following the rules. The mat-

ter is not between a Member of Parliament and the Industry Minister.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: I know it. I may please be allowed to finish. What I am saying is that the hon. Minister could have mentioned it while replying to the discussion. The Industry Minister has replied to the point raised by Mr. Jibon Roy. What he has replied to the hon. Member cannot be a part of the motion that we have tabled. Madam, therefore, either you adjourn the House and ask the Industry Minister to circulate the additional portion of his statement or you can ask the Minister to clarify as to why he has gone out of his way to mention this additional information.

श्री सिकन्दर बख्तः सदर साहिब, आप मुझे कहने का मौका दीजिए।

†اڈیوگ منتری "شری سکندر بخت":
صدر صاحب - آپ مجھے کہنے کا موقع دیجئے

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, let the Leader of the House speak. ...(*Interruptions*)... I don't need anybody's help in finding a solution. I can find it myself....(*Interruptions*)... He is the Leader of the House, let him speak. He is concerned with it.

श्री सिकन्दर बख्तः सदर साहिब, मेरा सिर्फ इतना कहना है। यह बात बिल्कुल ठीक है जो कुछ इन्होंने कहा है। इत्तिफाक यह हुआ कि हमारे आनरेबल सदस्य जीवन साहब ने जो सवाल उठाया था वह इसी सब्जेक्ट से मुताल्लिक था। इसलिए मैं उनको रिमार्क कर रहा था।

†شری سکندر بخت: صدر صاحب میرا صرف اتنا کہنا ہے - یہ بات بالکل ٹھیک ہے جو کچھ انھوں نے کہا ہے - اتفاق یہ ہوا کہ ہمارے آنریبل ممبر جیون صاحب نے جو سوال اٹھایا تھا وہ اسی سبجیکٹ سے متعلق تھا - اسلئے میں انکو ریمارک کر رہا تھا †

†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script

It was not a regular statement. It was just a remark. It was not a one-page or two-pages matter. It was just a couple of things which I had said. In any case, if you want it, I will get a copy of whatever I had said and circulate it among Members. I have no objection to it. मुझे एक कापी दे दें। मैं इसको ठीक करवा देता हूं।

†مجھے ایک کاپی دیدیں میں اسکو ٹھیک کروا دیتا ہوں†

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let the time of the House be not taken. Sikander Bakhtji, on the Calling Attention matter, you have made a written statement which has been distributed. Now, as far as your reacting to the point raised by Mr. Jibon Roy is concerned, it cannot become a part of your statement. So, it is a *suo motu* statement, even if it is a reaction, on your own initiative, it becomes the property of the House.

I cannot include it in the discussion now. But after the Calling Attention is over, I would allow the Members to seek clarifications on it because maybe, it is related, but it is a different thing. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Then, we want a copy of the statement.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes. A copy of the statement, both in English and Hindi, should be distributed. Now, Shri Gurudas Das Gupta.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, I call the attention of the Government because ...(*Interruption*).

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: You have already called the attention.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Then, Madam, should I call the attention afresh? (*Interruption*).

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES (Goa): Madam, I have a point of order.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, what is the point of order?

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Madam, when there is a *suo moto* statement by a hon. Minister, the list is circulated and the permission of the Chair is taken and advance notice is given. Madam, if you permit the hon. Minister to convert it into a *suo moto* statement now, you are throwing the rules to the wind. I am not questioning the wisdom of the Chair. But that is not the procedure. Let the hon. Minister give a notice and make the statement. We are concerned.....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Fernandes. Will you please take your seat now? It was, I think, a voluntary reaction by the Minister because Mr. Jibon Roy was so agitated on it and the Minister reacted. That is why we have withdrawn that statement now at this point of time. I have permitted him to do it later on, after the Calling Attention is over, when you can seek clarifications. So, we have clarified that and adhered to the procedure. Okay? Now, Mr. Gurudas Das Gupta.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, I had called the attention of the Government because I wanted to know from the Government how many public sector units the Government is going to close down. Today, he has made it clear that they are going to close down eight public sector undertakings. But, there are conflicting reports. Conflicting versions have been attributed to the hon. Minister. There is a report appearing in the media that the Government has identified nine public sector units to be closed down. It includes the Burn Standard of West Bengal. There is also a report attributed to the hon. Minister of Industry. He is reported to have said on 25th November that the Government had decided to close down eleven public sector units. Madam, there is another report appearing that Mr. Gurusamy, Advisor to the Finance Minister, has said that the Government has no business in any other business which means that the Government would like to close down many more units. Mr. Mohan Gurusamy is, at the moment, the Advisor to the Minister of finance. Madam, I seek your indulgence to draw your attention to a statement issued by the finance Minister, not in India, but outside. In Paris, he is reported to have said that India is ready to privatise all non-core PSUs. Therefore, it appears that the Government is in a mood to close down a large number of public sector units on the ground of non-viability and being strengthened by what he calls 'consensus'. He believes that there is a consensus in this country that the Government, at its own sweet will, can decide to close down a number of public sector units because they are not found to be viable. Therefore, the question is, is the decision an economic decision, based on economics? If it is based on economics, then, I must admit, it is bad economics. Have the fundamentals been assumed to be not correct or found to be wrong? Or, has the decision the Government has taken political overtones? I believe that there is a suspicion. I have no snifing nose. I am not in the habit of believing that I should suspect the Government. But there is a statement made by the hon. Minister of Industry. The hon. Minister of Industry is reported to have said—it is for him to clarify—that the Government has no business to be in the business. Mr. Bakht is reported to have said that the Government has no business to be in the business. It means that the Government does not believe that there should a viable, strong and energetic public sector in the country. The Government has now started believing that it should not be in the business. If it is so, there is no national consensus. I would request my hon. colleagues on the other side to kindly clarify if the Government has been given to understand that there is a consensus on the question that the Government has no business to be in the business, and the public sector should be gradually liquidated and sidelined. Therefore, Madam, the question is very important, wheter it is an economic question or

whether it is a political question. I shall discuss the political question later on. Let me discuss the economic question, first. While discussing the economic question, I would like to ask the Government to clarify if the present decision constitutes a contingency plan to tackle the problem of perennial or terminal sickness of some of the industries or whether it is a political decision to gradually sideline and demobilise the public sector of the country. It is for the Government to clarify. The Government has decided to wind up eight public sector units, as per the statement. Let me inform the hon. Minister, Shri Sikander Bakht that on 5th of November, a delegation of all the trade unions, including the trade union that belongs to his party or to the party of his friends with whom his party is associated with, that is, Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh, have collectively submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister, and according to the study made by the trade unions, the Government will have to spend more on VRS than to revive the public sector units. That is the basic point. The Government will have to spend more money for VRS than the funds necessary to revive the public sector units. They have stated that the total funds required for winding up the public sector units are around Rs. 517 crores. According to the study made by the trade unions, it is nearly Rs. 400 crores that is necessary for the revival of these eight public sector units. Where is the economics? Where is the resource crunch? If you need Rs. 117 crores less to revive these public sector units and if you believe that these public sector units have a prospect of viability, prospect of revival, then why have you taken a draconian, decisive and drastic decision of closing-down eight public sector units? The decision of the Government constitutes a sharp departure from the policy that was being followed by the earlier Governments. Never before was such a decision taken that so many public sector units would be closed down because the Government has come to the conclusion that these units are not viable. Such a decisive step was never discussed, was never announced and was never taken by the earlier Governments. Therefore, it has to be seen whether the decision has a political overtone or the decision is based on economics and economic understanding. Let me deal with two public sector units that the Government has decided to wind up. My hon. friend will kindly bear with me. Bharat Ophthalmic Glass is the unit that produces optical glass for the country. It produces glass sheets for our tanks. So, this is a unit which is needed for defence production in the country. In order to wind up the Bharat Opthalmic Glass, you need Rs. 21.30 crores. How much do you need to revive this unit?

According to the estimate made by the management, by the important nodal agencies, Rs. 15.25 crores are required to revive this public sector unit. Madam, in the case of MAMC, the most important and leading machinery producing unit of the country that was set up during the period of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, it was set up to produce machinery for the coal fields. In order to pay for the VRS, the Government needs Rs. 250 crores. For the revival of this unit, the Government needs Rs. 190 crores. For winding up, Rs. 250 crores are required, for revival, Rs. 192 crores are required! Where is the economics? Where is the economics? Where is the elementary sense of economics? Where is the shortage of funds? If there has been a shortage of funds, how do we pay for it? Madam, it is no body's argument that terminal public sector units should be allowed to live only on the dole being given by the Government from the State Exchequer. It is no body's understanding. I am here not to claim that every year you give money to these units so that they are not dead. It is not a question of reviving the clinically dead public sector units. It is a question of nursing back to health those public sector units whom this countrty can revive, whom this Government can

revive. From that point of view, Madam I believe that there are at least two cases where these the public sector units can be revived. They should be revived.

Madam, let me tell you why the Ophthalmic Glass Ltd. had fallen sick. The Ophthalmic Glass Ltd. used the machinery imported from outside. Most of the equipments were obsolete. Even the packages that were imported were not opened. Therefore, it neer reached the optimum level of production. Then again, with the reduction of import duty, it was possible to import, or, the import of substandard Ophthalmic glass was allowed, cutting into its market potential. Madam, the Ophthalmic Glass Ltd. was never given a suitable personnel management. Therefore, the point is why such a unit should be closed. Ophthalmic glass is a vital component of human life. Why should we live on imports from outside? It has a social aspect, it has a human aspect, it is a political aspect and it has an economic aspect. Looking to the human aspect, why are we not able to produce such a vital component of human life in our own country? Why should we import it? Let us take into consideration why MNAC of Durgapur had fallen sick. It had fallen sick because the Unit that was set to supply equipmetns to Coal India was never given full orders by Coal India! The Coal India management started purchasing them from the private sector, from outside the country, for obvious reasons, and there was a change in the production technique from underground mining to open cast mining. Underground mining in the country had changed over to open cast mining. As a result, this Unit had fallen sick. There could have been timely intervention for diversification of the product. No timely intervention for diversification of the product was done. Therefore, it is a case where some of the Units were deliberately made sick, and I don't feel shy to say that the problem of sickness that these public sector undertakings are facing today is an accumulated garbage. Successive Governments can be held responsible, successive Prime Ministers and successive Finance Ministers can be held responsible, for the critical crisis that has overtaken the public sector. Being faced with such a historical situation, may I call upon the hon. Leader of the House to kindly consider whether the question can be reopened. If it is a question of surplus manpower, let us discuss the question. Let us discuss the question of offloading the surplus manpower in a congenial atmosphere. If it is a question of disposing of assets to earn income, let us discuss that. I call upon the Minister, most respectfully, to kindly reconsider whether the public sector undertakings that the Government has decided to wind up can be revived. They should be revived. Madam, there is a wider ramification of the decision the Government has taken. There is a very wider ramification. What is the ramification? Being emboldened by the decision of the Government that a large number of public sector units will be closed down, the private sector has taken upon itself the responsibility of unleashing a terror on the working people of the country. There is a terror. It is not that this terror is there today in Haryana only. There is a terror let loose on the entire working class of the country. The Government, by its action, is contributing to a philosophy that it is the working people who have to bear the brunt of liberalisation. Is it the working class who have to bear the brunt of liberalisation? Is it not for other to share the burden? Being emboldened by the decision of the Government, in Maruti, which is a joint sector company, one thousand employees have been laid off recently. Being emboldened by the decision of the Government, the employers are allowed to adopt a policy of hire and fire. Kindly read the decision of the Government regarding the closing down of the public sector units with the reported decision that the Industrial Disputes Act of the country is going to be amended in favour of the employer. Retrenchment, closure and lay-off are going

to be made easier and less obnoxious, if I may use the words of the employers. If we take into account the statement of the Finance Minister, which he had made in France, that all non-core public sector units would be privatised, if we take seriously the statement of the hon. Leader of the House that the Government has no business to remain in business, if we take seriously the statement of Guruswamy that most of the public sector units will be privatised, there will be a new environment in the country. There is a sharp departure from the national consensus on the public sector which was built up during Nehru's time. It was strengthened during Indira Gandhi's time. There is a sharp departure. If there is a departure, the House must ventilate the grievance. I call upon my friends on the other side to tell the House categorically whether they stand by the claim made by the hon. Minister that there is a consensus on this issue or not.

Madam, what is the human aspect? There is going to be a galloping unemployment. There is going to be tremendous human distress because if we close down a public sector, it is not that unit alone is closed. A number of ancillaries are also closed along with it. The dream town of Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy, that is, Durgapur, will be turned into a desert, if the decision that the Government has taken is allowed to be implemented. It is my State, West Bengal, our State, West Bengal, which bears the brunt of the closure, which is facing the largest number of closures, as is envisaged by the present Government. If you take that human aspect into consideration, you are advised to go slow. We suggest a reconsideration. We implore upon you to find out if there can be a solution. Why didn't the Government consult the trade unions before taking such a decision? Why didn't the Government consult the Oppositioin before taking such a decision? Why didn't the Government attempt a broader consensus on this issue, on this lingering human aspect, before taking such a decision? The Government unilaterly takes a decision and now it speaks of consensus. If you speak of economics, it is wrong. Why do we say wrong? In the present world situation our economy will be made more vulnerable to the anarchic market forces. Our economy will be made more vulnerable. The economy of the country will be under a sweeping storm of recession which has overtaken the world, if we weaken the public sector. If the public sector is not there, who is there? Who is there to protect our economy? Who is there to protect our pupulation? Who is there to protect the country that we are living in today? The public sector today stands as the most reliable citadel for national growth, for national prosperity, for our battle against poverty, for our battle against human distress. Therefore, by weakening the public sector, the Government makes its own economy more vulnerable to the American pressure, more vulnerable to the world recession, more vulnerable to the dictates of the World Bank, more vulnerable to the dictates of the IMF. I call upon the Government not only to go slow but also to kindly reconsider the dangerous decision. The hon. Minister has spoken about BIFR. In the BIFR, no revival plan can be taken up if the Government is an employer and if the management does not come forward with a revival plan. It is the Government which is at fault. This Government, without presenting before the BIFR, the actual revival plan, has cleared the way for an ultimate decision of the BIFR to close them down. It is not the BIFR which is at fault. It is the Government which is at fault because the Government has refused to bring before the BIFR, the revival package. madam, we need less money for their revival and we need more money for winding up all these units.

I call upon the Government to kinldy take into account other important remifications, political, economic and human remifications, before taking a final deci-

sion. Therefore, I appeal to the Government to reconsider this decision.

SHRI DIPANKER MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): Madam, the hon. Minister was widely quoted in the Press, — well, I belong to those vested interests who talk about these industries — in the *Statesmen* of 9th September, 1998 where it was announced that Rs. 517 crores VRS package was mooted. Hon. Minister, please don't take it personally. Sikander Bakhtji, I have high regard for you. If people call him, Mr. V.R.S. Bakht, that will all be in good taste. The report says, "Though he did not expect the workers to retaliate against the extremely positive package—this is the *Statesman* of 9th September, 1998 where it was announced that Rs. 517 crores VRS package was mooted, *i.e.* asking 10,000 workers to go—which is expected to be cleared this month. There could be the backlash from vested interests." Shri Vayalar Ravi, Shri Jibon Roy, Shri Dipankar Mukherjee, Shri Guirudas Das Gupta, Shri Bangaru Laxman, etc. are all vested interests who are politically interested in keeping this issue alive! Madam, I would like to say, "Yes, we are those people who are interested in keeping the issue of reviving the public sector alive." We will do it, whether you want it or do not want it.

Madam, I would like to start from para 6 of his statement, not para 1. The hon. Minister says, "I may assure the hon. Members that my Government would not stand in the way of eventual revival for any of these PSUs if a revival scheme is sanctioned by BIFR." Then what are we discussing? If the objective is before you.....(*Interruptions*). Mr. Minister, do you want to clarify it? The Minister has assured in para 6 that the Government would not stand in the way of eventual revival for any of these PSUs if a revival scheme is sanctioned by BIFR. What does it mean?

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: I would like to say one thing.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: I am very happy because I have been able to provoke you.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: Here I have mentioned about the revival of nine PSUs. I had said that in the context of these PSUs.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Mr. Minister, are you talking about these eight PSUs?

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: No. There is another set of nine PSUs. You read my statement.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Aren't you talking about these eight PSUs? Mr. Minister, you are not clear.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: I am very clear.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: When you talked about these PSUs, you specifically said that this was the decision of the BIFR. You are not clear about the objective. You clearly state the objective before we discuss anything. What is your objective? Do you want to revive the sick industries or don't you want to revive these units? If the objective is that you do not want to revive these units, well, I can tell you, another five or six such statements can be made by you justifying it. On the one hand, you are justifying the closure and you are offering the VRS package, and on the other hand, you are saying that if eventually the revival package is given by the BIFR, then the Government would not stand in the way. On the one hand, you are foreclosing the issue of revival by saying, "I am going to give VRS package to all these PSUs", and then you are talking about revival. As a matter of fact, it is quasi-judicial anthority; my charge is—you kindly clarify—you are influencing the BIFR by giving such statements in Parliament, by giving such Press statement.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: You go through the last paragraph of that statement. It says, "The Government have already agreed to provide"—and it goes on to say—"for which the revival schemes

have been sanctioned by the BIFR." So, it is connected with that.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: So, in respect of these nine PSUs, your position is that no further revival irrespective of what the BIFR says. In respect of what Shri Gurudas Das Gupta has said about these nine PSUs....

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: I will reply to the rest of the things later on. I only wanted to connect what has been said in my statement.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Let him be categorical. I don't understand what the hon. Minister is saying. The categorical point that we had raised is whether the Government is interested to revive these units or it is the final decision.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: I have not responded to Shri Gurudas Das Gupta. Dipankerji said something and I said that this sentence is related to this part only. Therefore, I am not entering into any sort of debate just now.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: I am not a lawyer....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: If this is the policy of the Government, then it should be applicable to all PSUs.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Are we having a Question Hour session now? Sikander Bakht Saheb, let the discussion be over and then you can reply. Do not react because if we keep on reacting, then there will be counter-reactions and the House will adjourn.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: I have not reacted at all. I was only trying to associate one of my sentences with the next one.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I would expect you to react at the end only. But if you take it that the Chair does not want you to react, you may not react also. So, this is not my ruling. The point of reaction should be after the Members have spoken.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Madam, we are talking about public sector units. But, in the case of these eight units, if the objective is not clear, then how will be he clarify if? I don't undertand that In fact, I am flattered that the Miniser gets up and clarifies this thing. I still think that the hon. Minister has not given much time to this. Philosophically you see what your agenda is. The BJP's agenda regarding labour is, "Our plan to reform the reform process through the Swadeshi approach includes a strong commitment to make labour both organised and unorganised, an equal and proud partner, in the nation's progress." If that is the case, is it the way you deal with your partner? The partner does not know it, and you annouce about Rs. 517 crores worth VRS package. Is it the way of dealing with the partner? You don't discuss with trade unions. I saw your statement in the Press. Mostly in the company of Confederation of Indian Industry, FICCI, ASSOCHEM and all these partners, you say that the Government has no business to be in business. Now, who are your equal partners and your proud partners? Mr. Minister, yes, we are the vested interests. Philosophically I would welcome Shri Yashwant Sinha more than you, because he says that this is his philosophy, that 74 per cent will be disinvested, and the sick industries will be closed down. We have a philosophical difference. You will implement your policy and we will implement our policy. what does this Calling Attention Motion mean? Your Ministry has got 23 units under the BIFR. You are going to go in for joint venture for another twenty three and 74 per cent will be disinvested. What remains with you? You don't want to be in business. If the Government does not want to run the industries, then why is it that the hon. Minister should hold the charge of the Ministry of Industry? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MD. SALIM: Wind up the Ministry of Industry.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: You say that you don't want to revive the units. It is a clear objective. You say like Shri Yashwant Sinha Straight away. Have the courage and say it right now, and I will sit down. You say, "I don't want to run these units and these will all be closed down, and the other units will be sent for joint collaboration." You please

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have the courage to speak. If you say you want to work with your proud partner, kindly clarify to me as to how many minutes, how many hours you have spent with your proud and equal partner regarding this issue and how many hours you have spent with, whatever you call them, partners or whatever it is, Confederation of Indian Industry, FICCI, ASSOCHAM and all that.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, I want to adjourn the House. You can continue after the lunch hour. We will discuss it later. The House is adjourned for one hour for lunch.

The House then adjourned for lunch at one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at three minutes past two of the clock, THE VICE-CHAIRMAN, SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES in the Chair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Now we will resume the discussion on the Calling Attention. Shri Dipankar Mukherjee to resume the discussion.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Sir, my next point for this Calling Attention is regarding the viability of these units. The Ministry says that in case a unit is not viable, and if it has been declared unviable by the BIFR, then they are giving them an option for getting more retrenchment benefits. Here, I want to make it very clear even regarding BIFR. Would the Minister kindly clarify if that is the only agency which you have in mind for giving you recommendations about viability of a unit? If so, why is it that the 14-member BIFR Bench has become defunct for the last three-four months? Right now, there are only three members. How could you think of reviving these sick units based on the recommendations of BIFR? In the last paragraph of the statement, you have said that you want to revive them based on the recommendations of BIFR. Sir, BIFR itself has become unviable. Probably, there was a question by Shri Salim in reply to which the Government says, "Okay, now we have three members." Three hundred cases, including public sector, are registered. Does it show any indication, any sort of willingness on the part of this Government, the promoter, to review these units, by keeping the BIFR totally defunct? I want to know whether these are viable. Sir, I remember, in 1995, I brought a calling attention motion here regarding sick units. I had put a specific query to the then Finance Minister. He had agreed. If you want to close down a unit, all based on the balance-sheet or whatever it is, even in capitalist countries, firstly, they see if the product has a market and the cost of replacement, including the opportunity cost for creating that employment and whether these costs are more than the closure cost or less than the closure cost. Unless you have that in mind, you cannot just go on closing down the industries based on the balance-sheets. I will take three-hour units-one by one. I would say that whatever has been given in the statement is not factually correct. The BIFR gives a scheme through an operating agency. Unless the promoter agrees to infuse funds, unless the trade unions accept and unless the banks agree, no scheme can be implemented. The BIFR is not an agency which can take a decision on investing funds. If you say that the BIFR has said something is viable or unviable, it does not carry any meaning. Unless you, the promoter, and the banks agree, the BIFR cannot say that it is viable. Eight units have been referred and this is the most important part.

Sir, I am taking advantage of Mr. Bakht's presence here. When you say, "The BIFR has said that MAMC, the Mining and Allied Machinery Company, is unviable" factually, it is not correct. The BIFR had appointed IFCI as the operating agency. They had made a scheme which required an investment of Rs. 140 crores then. Now it is Rs. 400 crores. There is a time lapse. After five years, it will be this much. What did the IFCI say? "If you say it is unviable, it is unviable." I am quoting from the IFCI report as well as from the answer given in Parliament to my question dated 29th February, 1996. I had asked: Whether IFCI, in its viability report, stated that if would be unexpensive and unremunerative investment to replicate or recreate the cumulative intruisic advantage currently obtaining in MAMC. The Government's answer was: 'Yes, Sir.' That means, to replicate, to replace MAMC, is unremunerative. What does it manufacture? It manufactures machinery for the coal industry. If you stop it, either you have to import the machinery, or, create another company, private or public. That cost...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN. F. FERNANDES): You have taken nine minutes earlier. We have only one hour. Please be brief. I have ten more names here. I have only one hour. It includes the reply by the hon. Minister. So, please be brief.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: There were a lot of interruptions.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: You would also agree that all the units are from our State and...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN. F. FERNANDES): You are taking his time.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: If this is the state of affairs, what does the Government say? The operating agency has also observed that the company is very heavily over-staffed, has excessive fixed cost and is operating at low efficiency and low volumes. All these are factors for which he wants to close it down. It is you, not the BIFR. It is very much within your control. Would you clarify as to how you are going to replicate another MAMC?

Regading Bharat Opthalmic Glass, you have already taken a decision. In the Consultative Committee Meeting of Industry Ministry held in August, 1998, the Government reported that the BOGL had already been referred to BIFR and the final decision of BIFR was awaited.

This was the position on 5th November, 1998. You said that the decision is awaited. But, then you declared the VRS. You declared it to the Press that it is going to be closed down. How is it going to have any business? You are declaring its obituary before it starts. Sir, on the 5th November, we were told in the action taken report of consultative Committee that Bharat Opthalmic Glass had been referred to the BIFR and the final decision was awaited. When the final decision is awaited, you say that all the people are to be given the VRS. Are you going to revive the unit? Can a company be revived in this situation? Regarding National Instruments, your people are saying that the BIFR has declared in unviable. My submission is that on 9.9.96 — please see the date — ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): You have already taken 16 minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*.. I cannot permit you because we have only one hour for the whole debate. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: If some of the Members can give me their time, then I can go ahead. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): If there is any time left, then you can speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... But, now you conclude.

SHRI S. M. KRISHNA (Karnataka): Sir, he can take my time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): One party's time cannot be transferred to the other. ... I know he is very magnanimous to your party. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: He is magnanimous to the workers, not to my party. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, on 9.9.98, the BIFR circulated a note on the revival scheme with regard to National Instruments wherein it was specifically stated that a scheme had been circulated and the scheme was considered to be an economically viable proposition. On the one hand, on 9th September there was a statement on the economically viable proposition, and on the other hand, we found a Press statement declaring it unviable. What is this going on? Sir, for Cycle Corporation a revival proposal is being worked out by an alternative promoter and now you say that it will be closed down. Then there is Tannery and Footwear Corporation in Uttar Pradesh. I am not talking of Bengal. Sir, 4000 people are working. Where does it supply? It supplies shoes to the Defence. Is this the case that the shoes will be made by someone else? What is the replacement cost? Unless this is not taken into account, the whole idea of closure by the BIFR does not have any sense. If the Government is prepared to give the money and if a viable scheme is there, all these units can be very well revived. I would like the Government to come out and tell us whether replacement cost vis-a-vis the closure cost has been calculated. I can give all the figures. The revival cost of these units is much more cheaper than the closure cost. If the Minister wants that all these units are revived, then we can have detailed discussion with the trade unions, with the management, with the Government and other concerned agencies. We will show you that the revival cost is less than Rs. 517 crores. My question is: Wherefrom are you going to get this amount of Rs. 517 crores? Many people think that it will be coming from the NRF. My information is that it is not coming from the NRF. This amount is coming from the non-budgetary Plan and the non-Plan. You cannot give the working capital for wages and salaries. It will come to Rs. 517 in eight or ten years. You are not giving it from the NRF. You can give it from the non-Plan support so that people can take VRS and these units can be closed down. But, you cannot give non-Plan as working capital and salaries. How do you do it? This is not more than what has been done earlier. This is the non-Plan support which has been given. If this is the case, the working class in demanding Rs. 517 crores from you. This includes Shri Bangaru Laxman. Even if you give this amount of Rs. 517 crores in the next three years, then all these units can be made viable. Revival means that you diversify the plant and have a new plant. An investment of Rs. three crores is required for weigh Bird for its revival. It is a very small unit. But, its case has not been taken seriously. If you have decided to close down the public sector, then come out openly and tell that so that we face you on the road tomorrow.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Sir, I want the hon. Minister to implement the things on the basis of the discussion that we are having here. Sir, the first para of his statement says, "I may assure the hon. Members that my Government would not stand in the way of the revival of the PSUs for which the revival scheme has been sanctioned by the BIFR." Today, what we are requesting you is this. The economics have been worked out and revealed. I do not want to repeat what my hon. friends have said. We want your assurance. If the BIFR agrees, do you have any objection? Mr. Mukherjee has asked you, why, even before the BIFR

took any decision, you want to close down the factory. You have to answer this question. In the Consultative Committee, the hon. Minister has said that it is before the BIFR. You have decided to close it down even the BIFR's final decision! Why? Is it not a *mala fide* intention? This is the basic question. The public sector, I am not repeating what he has said, is facing a consistent attack from the vested interests. You may say that others have vested interests. But, I may tell you that the vested interests are consistently attacking the public sector. In this country, thousands of industries have been close down. Nobody bothers.

Now, I take up economics of public sector as a whole because I believe the public sector has to play an important role. It played a vital role, it is playing a vital role and it is going to play a vital role in our Indian economy to sustain all pressures from international monetary systems. If you look at the whole economy, I am not going into investment, this and that, you will be knowing that in 242 industries the investment is almost Rs. 2 lakh crores. But what is the return? The return or the growth margin is, Rs. 44,501 crores. This is according to your own report. It is an increase of Rs. 44,000 odd crores. What is the net profit? The net profit of the public sector is Rs. 10,258 crores. The people are saying that the public sector is in loss, so it has to be dissolved, disinvested and what not. But, if you look at the public sector as a whole, the net profit is Rs. 10,258 crores. What is the contribution to the exchequer? The contribution to the exchequer, during the last year, is, Rs. 37,447 crores. Is the public sector not serving any cause? The public sector is not meant for huge profits. The very purpose of public sector, which has been said and it was also said in the Industrial Policy Resolution, 1956, has been enunciated. One of the major things is to create employment opportunities. Out of five, one of the major things is to create employment opportunities. What is the position today? Today, the employment has come down from 20,52,000 to 19,78,000. So, the opportunities are coming down. The employment opportunities have come down. So, Sir, the whole attack on the public sector by the vested interests is not only to create more industries or private industries but it is also a deliberate attempt to weaken the Indian economy. It is subjected to pressures, to make us yield before the international pressures, and as a result, our economy is in doldrums because the public sector is playing a vital role to sustain the stability and the ethos of the Indian economy. That is the main point. Sir, look at the industry which is closing down. I do not know why you are closing down an industry. Look at the RIC. It is for the refugees coming from East Bengal. You want to close it down. And, I need not say anything about the Bharat Ophthalmic Glass because it has already been talked about.

I do not want to repeat. We have to find out a way to help these poor people. Everyone knows about the need of ophthalmic lenses. Everyone knows about the need of ophthalmic lenses. So, it has come to the present stage. If we do like this, it will encourage the bureaucrats to occupy the high positions of the public sector to make it sick. That is the main point. Nobody made any enquiry into why a public sector company has become sick. The hon. Minister of Health is sitting here. I would like to congratulate him on behalf of the people of Kerala because he saved an industry from becoming sick. The name of the unit is, the Hindustan Latex Limited. Why? Here, the Government is the purchaser. He has issued an order, even though the previous Government was reluctant. I congratulate the present hon. Minister because he helped the people of Kerala. But, at the same time, this industry may also go sick because there is no marketing strategy. The Minister cannot make any marketing strategy. The public sector must have a marketing strategy in every industry.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, what happens to the ITI? The ITI was running with profits even till 1993-94. All of a sudden, it has become a loss-making unit. Why; My hon friend, Mr. Krishna, come from Bangalore. The fast development in the telecommunication system is ord development. But, the *Babus*—the IAS gentlemen called *Babus*—sitting in the secretariat, shut down every project of the ITI and said, why do you want to go when other people are coming? I, as a Member of the PSU Committee, say with responsibility that the ITI has been killed by the bureaucracy sitting in Delhi. So, there is no accountability on us sitting here. And there is no accountability on the bureaucracy heading the public sector.

So, look at the whole scenario. My objection in regard to these eight industries is that you are making a dangerous beginning. That is why I am opposing you. As Mr. Mukherjee and Mr. Das Gupta explained to you, you can even take the economics of it and the financial viability of it, it is more of a loss to the Government than profit. Sir, with this background, I appeal to the hon. Minister—you made a promise in this House—we do not want to have a privilege motion against you at a later stage because you have given an assurance to the House. Here that paragraph is there. *(Interruption)* Sir, I am not confused. In the first sentence you have already declared that four units are to be closed down. In the second sentence there is a mention of nine industries. It is there in paragraph six, last sentence, second portion. So don't confuse it. I want to know from you, hon. Minister,—if you are sincere about your assurances given to this House, that you will revive then if the BIFR agrees—whether you will at least look into the points where BIFR has not agreed. Why do you want to close down? The third point is, as the hon. Members have said, we are not totally opposed to have a programme for the PSUs; to revive them; to rehabilitate them or to make them more dynamic. Nobody is opposing it. There is need to take the workers into confidence. You know what happened in the private industry. In Philips—Philips is a private industry—they could not close it in Calcutta. Do you know what happened? I read it in the newspapers. They could not close it down. Workers have a big say even in the private industry. When the private sector hears its workers, then why cannot you? Sir, I am not complaining about the things. Definitely, we want restructuring and other things. Yes, there are many industries. (time-bell rings) I will take only a second. For example, I will take up the Indian Airlines. In the Indian Airlines there is no marketing. They said, 'we have the whole market.' There is no marketing in the Indian Airlines. So, people go by private airline. Monopoly is also coming. That is a different matter. I do not want to deal with it.

Look at Air India. Air India is running into losses of Rs. 340 crores. That is the latest figure. Why? Even the Indians do not want to travel by Air India because it is not applying modern management. Their behaviour is very bad. Even an air-hostess in the cabin comes with a walking stick because she is more than 50 years of age. You need a commercial approach. I am a strong exponent of public sector, but I do not want the public sector to be in doldrums. My argument is that certain institutions need a commercial approach. That commercial approach is lacking in your Ministry and in other Ministries, because here the people who are sitting in the Secretariat—I and you will come and go—the IAS Officers who are there, are a permanent entity. Their interest is different. They are more interested in the private industries and private entreprenuers and those who are in the monopoly houses. This is a big disaster for the country. That is why, Sir, the political authority must assert itself. You must assert. Don't be misled by the people sitting there.

I, as a member of the PSU Committee, found that the CAG complained to us that their hands are tied up. When we cannot do anything, CAG looks into it. It is the function of the CAG. So, let us have some kind of a new approach instead of closing down the public sector. I am appealing to you and I would like to know whether you will adopt the new approach. And sustain and continue the public sector with a new approach in the new political economic environment. With these words; I specifically want to know from the Minister whether you will implement the promise that you have given in paragraph 6. Thank you.

SHRI V.P DURAISAMY (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I do not want to repeat the points which the senior Members have already expressed. Even then it is our duty, on behalf of my party, to register our feelings since it is a big problem. Sir, I want to raise only two points. After the closure of these eight units, what will be its implications? How is this Government going to meet the foreign exchange problem? Being a welfare Government, it should open more public sector units instead of coming forward for closure, that too on the advice of officers.

Sir, India is an under-developed country and it is not expected that an under-developed country should close down its units. Instead, it should go in for a modernisation programme. The West Bengal Government and several hon. members of the House have repeatedly been requesting Government after Government to come forward with funds to help them in the modernisation programme. It is strange that the Government of India is not even giving orders for purchasing the products produced by the PSUs. It is painful to see that even after 50 years of our independence, our brothers and sisters, who have registered their names with employment exchanges for vacancies according to their qualifications, have not been able to get suitable employment. After the closure of these units, the unemployment problem will aggravate. It will lead to a law and order problem. It will have social implications. The hon. Minister in his statement has not mentioned how he is going to help the affected families. Moreover, if we close down the PSUs, what would be the foreign exchange position? Already, the rupee is trading at Rs. 43/- against a dollar. As a result of the closures, the money value of the rupee will deteriorate further. Our people will lose their purchasing power and would not be able to raise their standard of living.

Sir, we are having 240 PSUs. According to the Government, eight PSUs are incurring losses. That means, 232 PSUs are running in profit. The United Front Government had given crores of rupees for the modernisation programme. I would like to know what the Government's policy is in regard to the *Navratnas*. You are closing down the units one by one. Which units will get the status of the *Navratna*? I would like to have a guarantee from the Government that they would not close down the *Navratnas*. The Government has been turning a deaf ear to the requests of the West Bengal Government as well as of the Members of Parliament. I would like to know what prevented them from giving money to help the units in their modernisation programme? Instead of arranging funds for the purpose, you are just saying that eight units reincurring losses. How can you say that? As members of the Standing Committees of Parliament we have visited so many industries and factories. PSU Chairmen and MDs have told us that the units, which were started 50 years or 40 years back, could not compete with the modern private concerns without they themselves undergoing a modernisation programme. Instead of closing them down, money should have been allotted to them for the purpose of modernisation.

As per the hon. Minister's statement, eight units from West Bengal, two from UP and one from Ooty are being closed down. The Hindustan Photo Films is

situated in the most backward area, from the social as well as economic point of view. Most of the Scheduled Tribe people are living in the Nilgiris. If the Government is going to close them down, what would be the repercussion? How are you going to rehabilitate these employees and their family Members, who would be affected as a result of this closure?

I understand that you are imposing a 80 per cent import duty. That is why foreign goods like fertilizers and other things are coming here. You are going to close down a fertilizer company, the FACT. It is running in profit. If you reduce the duty from 80 per cent to 20 per cent, naturally, the foreign goods will come and Indian goods will not find any market. Under these circumstances, my party and myself are against the decision taken by the Government to close down some units. Instead of coming forward to modernise these units, the Government has taken a decision to wind them up. We condemn this attitude of the Government. Your objective is to call for tenders to sell away these 8 units to private parties. We do not know who is going to buy these 8 units. Instead of going through this process, you can straightway sell these units and get the money. In this way, you can save money. The Industry Minister is a senior-most Minister. He is having too many problems. One is, he is going by bureaucratic words. The second is, the alliance partners in his Government does not permit the Ministers to perform their duty regularly. That is the problem. They are not permitting them to run the Government, be it the alliance partners or the bureaucrats. The sufferers are the labour community....*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Mr. Minister...*(Interruptions)*..No, please.

SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: The Minister is not supposed to answer all those things. I have got every right to register my feelings.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN: (SHRI JOHN. F. FERNANDES) Mr. Duraisamy, please conclude. ...*(Interruptions)*...Mr. Duraisamy, have you concluded on the subject?

SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: The Minister and the Government should get away from the problems posed by the alliance partners and should look after the welfare of the labour community. Thank you.

SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL (Maharashtra): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the Calling Attention matter is limited to the 8 public sector undertakings which have been specifically mentioned here. But the issue has been taken back to the early years when Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru started the public sector undertakings as the temples of modern India. But what these gentlemen, these hon. Members who are now invoking his name,

have made of those temple is something to be seen. The shining, the glitter उसका जो कलश था उसको उन्होंने नष्ट कर दिया, भ्रष्ट कर दिया। इसलिए जितनी कंपनियां यहां पर आज हमारे सामने हैं उनमें से पांच कंपनियां वेस्ट बंगाल की है, एक महाराष्ट्र की है और एक उत्तर प्रदेश की है। इनको अपने गिरेबान में मुंह डालकर देखना होगा कि ऐसा क्यों हो गया। ये जो इंडस्ट्रीज खड़ी की गयी थीं ये केवल लेबर के लिए नहीं थीं। उनका आब्जेक्टिव क्या था। उनका आब्जेक्टिव था। At that time, the public sector enterprises acquired a pivotal role in the economic reconstruction of the country. The policy-makers under the leadership of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had the conviction; and the State had to assume a major economic role in order to protect the structural bottlenecks and to achieve rapid economic growth and, through that, social transformation. If industries keep on making losses, I do not know how it will contribute to social transformation and to economic growth. We are only talking in general about the public sector disinvestment and all that. At this moment of time, I whould appeal that we should rise above emotions and rhetoric and face the hard facts.

I would put some facts about these companies before you. The Mining & Allied Machinery Corporation. It is in Durgapur. This is a company which makes mining equipment which are so much required in the country. All these years, maybe after the first few years, it has been making losses. It has got a gross block of only Rs. 57 crores. There are 4217 employees. What are the financial results? In 1995-96, it has made a loss of Rs. 101 crores. The cash losses, during 1995-96, are a whopping Rs. 97 crores. The total investment is Rs. 177 crores. Are these investments supposed to bring any returns which will go to the exchequer to improve the social conditions of the people? *(Interruption)*. I did not interrupt you.

SHRI VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Mr. Jibon Roy, not now.

SHRI VEDPRASAKH P. GOYAL: Please listen. ...*(Interruption)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN: (SHRI JOHN. F. FERNANDES): Mr. Jibon Roy, not now. Let the hon. Member speak. When the Minister gives the reply, you may ask.

SHRI JIBON ROY (West Bengal): Sir, I am from that ares.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES) : Okay. Please take your seat. *(Interruption)*. Mr. Jibon Roy, please do not interrupt.

SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: The reality is that in 1991, the country's scenario has changed. You are still back in 1950. The country does not support you. You are left back in one State with 40 MPs. You are unnecessarily raising your voice. *(Interruptions)*.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Mr. Goyal, please address the Chair. *(Interruption)*. Mr. Jibon Roy, do not interrupt. You can say what you want when the hon. Minister replies. Not now. Mr. Goyal, pleased address the Chair.

SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Let them face the music of what they have created.

The second compay is the national Bicycle Corporation. It has a gross block of Rs. 1.89 cores, a pittance in today's terms. The number of employees is 676. There is another bicycle company, the Cycle Corporation. The number of employees is 1718. It has a gross block of Rs. 2.7 crores. The cycle industry is flourishing in Ludhiana, in Delhi. They are exporting. They are competitive all over the world. And these companies are sick since ages! And you have to protect them! Labour is not the only angle for an industry. Labour is an essential component. We all, whichever party we belong to, are interested in them. You are not the repository, the only single repository, of their interest. We are looking after them as much. We also deal with them. We also work for them. What is the logic of maintaining these two cycle industries just to keep on feeding more money? They have a block of Rs. 2.7 crores and 1700—employees. *(Interruption)*.

SHRI JIBON ROY: Sir, the hon. Member is addressing me.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): He is not addressing you particularly. He is addressing the House.

SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: The fourth is the Bharat Ophthalmic Glass. It is a company with a Rs. 5.6 crore block and 472 employees and it is not making profits. If it is an exclusive industry and its products are required so badly by Defence and all that, why should they be making losses? To that, you say that a public sector unit does not buy from another public sector unit. The hon. Members have to answer that, not I. *(Interruption)*. If a public sector unit is not buying from another, as you know, there are certain reasons. You have created those reasons. *(Interruption)*. They are the cause. *(Interruption)*.

SHRI JIBON ROY: It is producing defence articles. There is no question of profit and loss.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): That is his opinion; that is the opinion of his party. Mr. Jibon Roy, let him say what the wants to. You can speak later on. *(Interruption)*. Please do not disturb him now.

SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: The fifth is the National Instruments Ltd. What is the position? It has 863 people to support a gross block of Rs. 6.92 crores. Another is the Weighbird India Ltd. What are these companies doing? How have lasted so long? How does the country keep paying their wages? There is a company with less than one crore of rupees investment and it is employing nearly 200 people. My friend should do some introspection, should look inside and see as to what has happened in his State. I come from Bombay which is an industrial State. Even in the private sector, those who have been speaking about the protection of the interests of labour, what have they done? I heard a very famous union leader at the Primier Automobiles gate. he was saying: "I will not leave this place until every worker gets a Fiat Car." Where is that company now? What has happened to the whole textiles industry of Mumbai? The union leaders did not see the totality of the business and the interests of the nation. Only on an obtuse angle, they have gone towards one side. This is the real situation. So, there is an attempt to rectify the whole situation through the present arrangement of closing down eight companies. After the initial few years, the things had changes, the whole national perspective of the public sector had changed. If we had changed to that situation much earlier than 1991, things would not have come to such a pass. What has happened now? The fact is that the total loss is around three-times than what the Central Government is spending in the critical agricultural sector or on health and family welfare. Whatever is being spent on these two inportant sectors, three times more than that is being spent on maintaining these holy cows. Some of them have been identified. We are now restriciting only to those units which are the worst of the lot. We will discuss the others when the subject comes before the House. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Sir, is he speaking on behalf of the Government?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): He is speaking on behalf of his party which is in the Government. The Minister is there to reply for the Government. Mr. Goyal, please conclude.

SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Now, unfortunately, Mr. Gurudas Das Gupta, you have never enjoyed that position. Even now, you are trying to climb the shoulders of the Congress, to be able to say that. I am speaking for my party. The direction is correct. The direction was adopted seven years back. But this is the first time that a bold Government has taken a bold decision to call spade a spade, and make the nation listen, make the nation understand as to what it is doing. We are protector of cows but not of these holy cows. These are eating into the very vitals of our country. I therefore, strongly uphold that these companies must be closed down as early as possible. I would like to make one more point at the end. I am very much in agreement with the bad condition of the BIFR. It should be strengthened. It has a chairman whose term will be over within two months. It has one director left... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI JIBON ROY: Your party has taken a bold decision of closing down everything. Everything has to be closed down. *(Interruptions)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Mr. Jibon Roy, please don't interrupt. Mr. Goyal, please conclude. You have taken enough time.

SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: They have ruined the economy of the State. Who is responsible for all this? They have done all this. Now, they are putting questions to us. Let them look inside first and set their own house in order. Thank you.

SHRI JIBON ROY: Sir, a misrepresentation of facts has taken place. I may be allowed to speak for two minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Not now. Shri N. Sundaram Thalavai.

SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on a matter of closing down of eight Central Public Sector Undertakings. Sir, as far as our country is concerned, the public sector undertakings have played a primary role in the development of the economy of our country. Now, the problem of sickness in the public sector undertakings has given rise to a number of questions which are before Parliament today.

The reply given by the Minister was: "There is non-availability of technical staff in the public sector undertakings. There is non-availability of raw materials and there is non-functioning of the staff in the public sector undertakings." My point is, if in the public sector undertakings there is non-availability of staff and if there is non-availability of raw materials, they will be sick. There is a BIFR. Suppose an industry becomes sick. Then, it would be referred to the BIFR. How many members are there in the BIFR? It is like the court proceedings. Sick industries are referred to the BIFR. I think, there is no technical member in the BIFR. I would like to know whether there is a technical member in the BIFR. If there is no technical members non-technical members cannot take an immediate decision. That is number one. Number two, there is non-availability of members in the BIFR. There are 236 public sector undertakings in our country. As far as the reply which was given by the Minister in Rajya Sabha is concerned, as on 31.3.97, 60 undertakings were referred to the BIFR. They are going to close down eight undertakings which were referred to the BIFR. My point is how we are going to revive these undertakings. First of all, the Minister should give priority to the appointment of members in the BIFR. He should first appoint a technical man. If there are other vacancies, they should immediately appoint other members also.

My learned friend, Mr. V.P. Duraisamy, has mentioned in the House that because of the Alliance partners, they are not able to handle it easily. ...*(interruptions)*... My specific point is that it is not only now that the undertakings are sick. Previously, we had a most inefficient Industry Minister in our country. That is the reason why the undertakings are sick now. ...*(interruptions)*...

SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Sir, the comment against an individual should not go on record. He should not be allowed to say like this. ...*(interruptions)*...

SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARAM: Unfortunately, we got the most inefficient Industry Minister from our State. ...*(interruptions)*...

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Sir, I have a point of order.

SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARAM: There is no point of order.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): The hon. Member is on a point of order. I have to permit him. ...*(interruptions)*... If there is a point of order, you raise that. ...*(interruptions)*... Mr. Sundaram, I have allowed him to raise a point of order. Mr. Sundaram, please sit down.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Sir, Mr. Duraisamy has actually mentioned about the functioning of the Government, the way in which it functions, but the hon. Member is casting aspersion on a person who is not a Member of this House. Please tell me whether it is permissible.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Did you name any person?

SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARAM: Sir, I have not mentioned any name.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Sir, he has mentioned the designation.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): It is permissible if he has not named any person individually. If it is by designation, that is permissible. It is only an office. So, there is no point of order. Please continue, and kindly address the Chair.

SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARAM: Sir, my learned friend, Mr. Mukherjee, raised in the House a specific question regarding the names of Central public sector undertakings which were referred to the BIFR. The reply given by the Minister was: "As on 31.3.98, eight undertakings have been referred to the BIFR. Their names are given in the Annexure." As far as tne previous question is concerned, 60 undertakings were referred to the BIFR. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the BIFR is functioning or not. If it is functioning, definitely, the undertakings will be revived. Please appoint technical members and other members in the BIFR so that we can solve this problem.

मौलाना ओबैदुल्ला खान आज़मी (बिहार): सदरे मोहतरम्, हुकूमत ने 8 सरकारी कारखानों को बंद करने का जो फैसला लिया है, मैं इसे गरीबों की हिस्सेदारी को खत्म करने का एक कदम मानता हूं और इसकी भरपूर मुखालिफत करते हुए कुछ कहना चाहता हूं। इन कारखानों में तकरीबन् साढ़े दस हज़ार मज़दूर काम कर रहे हैं। ज़ाहिर है कि कारखाने हुकूमत अगर बंद करेगी तो इन मज़दूरों को मुआवज़ा देकर रुख्सत कर देगी। मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या इन कारखानों के नाकारा और बीमार होने की जिम्मेदारी मज़दूरों पर आयद होती है? मज़दूर तो हमेशा अपना खून-पसीना बहाकर टेढ़े-मेढ़े रास्तों को अच्छी सड़क में तब्दील कर देता है। निराशा के माहौल में रहने वाले लोगों को, जब वह बंजर जमीन उसके हवाले करते हैं तोग एक अच्छी जमीन बनाकर, लहलहाती फसल ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री एच॰ हनुमनतप्पा (कर्णाटक): हिन्दी ट्रांसलेशन नहीं आ रही है। इनकी और सिकन्दर बख्त साहब की उर्दू बहुत कड़ी रहती है, इसलिए ट्रांस्लेशन की ज़रूरत है।

मौलाना ओबैदुल्ला खान आज़मी: मैं आसान उर्दू बोलने की कोशिश कर रहा हूं।

श्री एच॰ हनुमनतप्पा: आप दोनों की उर्दू हमारे दिमाग़ में नहीं उतरती है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Mr. Azmi, you speak slowly so that you can give them time for translation.

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम: यह तो आप इन दोनों की उर्दू को भी बी॰आई॰एफ॰आर॰ में भेजने की बात कर रहे हैं।

मौलाना ओबैदुल्ला खान आज़मी: मैं बिल्कुल सिम्पल उर्दू बोल रहा हूं। मैं यह कह रहा हूं कि मज़दूर का कमाल यह है कि वह बंजर ज़मीन को भी मेहनत करके इस लायक बना देता है कि उस पर फसलें लहलहाने लगती हैं और लोगों को खाने का सामान तैयार होता है। यकीनन् कारखानों में मजदूर छोटी सी कीमत पाकर देश को और देशवासियों को बड़ी कीमत देता है। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि मज़दूर उन कारखानों की बीमारी या नाकारापन के जिम्मेदार नहीं हैं। उन कारखानों की बीमारी या नाकारापन की जिम्मेदारी अगर किसी पर आयद भी होती है तो वह उन आला ओहदेदारों पर आयद होती है जो वहां पालिसी बनाते हैं या हुकूमत पर आयद होती है जो पालिसियों की जिम्मेदारी होती है। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि किसी भी इदारे की तबाही में हमेशा आला ओहदों पर बैठने वाले जिम्मेदार होते हैं। आप अफसरों को भी वहां से निकालिएगा, इंजीनियरों को भी वहां से छुट्टी कीजिएगा, ये अफसर या इंजीनियर जो मल्टी नेशनल कम्पनियों में अपनी जगह बना लेंगे, मगर उन गरीब मज़दूरों का क्या होगा जिनकी रोज़ी-रोटी की मात्र सिर्फ वही एक कारखाना उम्मीद है? मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि यहां तो

उन गरीबों को रिज़र्वेशन के ज़रिए भी जगह मिल जाएगी, मल्टी नेशनल कम्पनियों के द्वार पर तो उन गरीबों को खड़ा होने की जगह तक नहीं मिलेगी—दलितों को, मुसलमानों को, गरीब पिछड़े हुए लोगों को। फिर अगर आप यह बात कहेंगे कि ये कारखाने घाटे पर चल रहे हैं और इस बुनियाद पर उन्हें बंद किया जा रहा है, तो मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि जो हुकूमतें घाटे का बजट देती हैं, क्या उन हुकूमतों की दुकानदारी समेटकर आप उन हुकूमतों पर ताला लगवाएंगे? सर, हुकूमत मुआवज़ा देकर लोगों की रोज़ी-रोटी छीनने की बजाए अगर उसी रकम से कल-कारखाने को कारगर बनाने की कोशिश करती तो यह ज्यादा बेहतर क़दम होता। वैसे भी हुकूमत की ज़िम्मेदारी है कि वह खराब सिस्टम को बेहतर सिस्टम को बेहतर बनाए। जो जानवर लाइलाज होते हैं उनके लिए मर्सी किलिंग कानून भी है कि उन्हें मार डाला जाए, मगर यह किस कानून में आता है कि कारखाने अगर बीमार हो जाएं तो उनमें काम करने वाले मजदूरों को लाइलाज समझकर मार डाला जाए? मैं अपने वज़ीर सनद को मुखातिब करते हुए यह कहना चाहूंगा:—

अब मज़दुए जांबख्श सुना क्यों नहीं देते,
तुम कैसे मसीहा हो, दवा क्यों नहीं देते?

सर, मुझे यह अंदेशा है कि जो बड़ी-बड़ी नेशनल कम्पनियां हैं, उनकी हमेशा यह कोशिश रही है कि हम लोग उनके बंधक बन जाएं, जबकि आजादी के बाद से अब तक हमारी यह पॉलिसी रही है कि हम कल-कारखानों को पैदा करें और अपनी ज़रूरतों को पूरा करने में आत्मनिर्भर हों। बाहरी हुकूमतें और मुल्क की कम्पनियां किस तरह मुल्कों को उनकी नाकाबंदी करती हैं और वह अपना गुलाम बनाकर रखना चाहते हैं। यह जग जाहिर है और इराक की मिसाइल भी हमारी निगाह के सामने है। एक बात और कहूंगा सर, कि खुद हिन्दुस्तान में हमने जो एटमी धमाका करके अपने मुल्क की शान बढ़ाई है दुनिया के ठेकेदारों और लाशों के व्यापारी मुल्कों ने हम लोगों पर जिस तरह की आर्थिक मआशी पाबंदियां लगाई हैं और हमें खौफोहिरास के माहौल में मुबतला कर रखा है, हमें सोचना चाहिए कि क्या हम अपने कल-कारखाने बंद करके अगर दुनिया के मोहताज हो जाएंगे तो क्या दुनिया हमारी इस मोहताजी का फायदा नहीं उठाएगी। मैं हुकूमत से गुजारिश करूंगा कि हिम्मत के साथ अपने बंद कारखानों को चलाकर आप अपनी मजबूरी के बजाय अपनी मआशी आजादी का एलान करें तो ज्यादा बेहतर होगा। हजूरेवाला, इसलिए मैं हुकूमत से गुजारिश करता हूं कि बंद कारखाना करने का जो फैसला लिया गया है उसे फौरी तौर पर मंसूख किया जाए और इंतजामिया को दुरुस्त करके कल-कारखानों को जिन्दा करने का प्रोग्राम बनाया जाए। बैंकों और दूसरीमाली इदारों से रकम मुहैया कराकर देश के मेहनतकश मजदूरों की रोटी, रोजी बहाल करवाई जाए और अपना वायदा यों भी हुकूमत को वह वायदा जरूर पूरा करना चाहिए जिस वायदे की मिसाल मेरे इन तमाम साथियों ने दी है कि हुकूमत ने गरीबों, मजदूरों की हिस्सेदारी के सिलसिले में वायदा भी कर रखा है कि उनकी हिस्सेदारी को कभी नजरअंदाज नहीं किया जाएगा। मगर यह फैसला हुकूमत का कतअन और सरासर उन गरीब लोगों की हिस्सेदारी के खिलाफ फैसला है जिसकी एक बार फिर मैं भरपूर मुखालफत करते हुए हुकूमत से यह कहना चाहूंगा कि वह अपना वायदा पूरा करें जो गरीबों की हिस्सेदारी के सिलसिले में, मजदूरों की हिस्सेदारी के सिलसिले में हुकूमत ने किया है। कहीं ऐसा न हो कि—

"तेरे वायदे पर जिए हम तो यह जान झूठ जाना,
कि खुशी से मर नहीं जाते अगर एतवार होता।"

शुक्रिया।

†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script

بنا دیتا ہے کہ اس پر فصلیں لہلہانے لگتی ہیں اور لوگوں کے کھانے کا سامان تیار ہوتا ہے۔ یقیناً کارخانوں میں مزدور چھوٹی سی قیمت پاکر دیش کو اور دیش واسیوں کو بڑی قیمت دیتا ہے۔ میں یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ مزدوران کارخانوں کی بیماری یا ناکارہ پن کے ذمہ دار نہیں ہیں۔ ان کارخانوں کی بیماری یا ناکارہ پن کی ذمہ داری اگر کسی پر عائد بھی ہوتی ہے تو وہ ان اعلیٰ عہدیداروں پر عائد ہوتی ہے جو وہاں پالیسی بناتے ہیں یا حکومت پر عائد ہوتی ہے جو پالیسیوں کی ذمہ دار ہوتی ہے۔ میں یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ کسی بھی ادارے کی تباہی میں ہمیشہ اعلیٰ عہدوں پر بیٹھنے والے ذمہ دار ہوتے ہیں۔ آپ افسروں کو بھی وہاں سے نکالئے گا، انجینیروں کی بھی وہاں سے چھٹی کیجئے گا، یہ افسر یا انجینیر تو ملٹی نیشنل کمپنیوں میں اپنی جگہ بنا لیں گے، مگر ان غریب مزدوروں کا کیا ہوگا جن کی روزی روٹی کی ماترا صرف وہی ایک کارخانہ ہے۔ میں یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ یہاں تو ان غریبوں کو ریزرویشن کے ذریعہ بھی جگہ مل جائیگی، ملٹی نیشنل کمپنیوں کے دروازے پر تو ان غریبوں کو ٹھوکر ہونے کی ذمہ داری مزدوروں پر عائد ہوتی ہے؟ مزدور تو ہمیشہ اپنا خون پسینہ بہاکر ٹیڑھے میڑھے راستوں کو اچھی سڑک میں تبدیل کر دیتا ہے، نراشا کے ماحول میں رہنے والے لوگوں کو جب وہ بنجر زمین الاٹ کے حوالے کرتے ہیں تو ایک اچھی زمین بناکر، لہلہاتی فصل . . .

. . . "مداخلت" . . .

شری ایچ ہنومن تھیا: ہندی ٹرانسلیشن نہیں آرہا ہے۔ اقبی اور سکندرآباد سے صاحب کی اردو بہت کمزوری رہتی ہے، اس لئے ٹرانسلیشن کی ضرورت ہے۔

مولانا عبیداللہ خاں اعظمی: میں آسان اردو بولنے کی کوشش کر رہا ہوں۔

شری ایچ ہنومن تھیا: آپ دونوں کی اردو ہمارے دماغ میں نہیں اترتی ہے۔

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Mr. Azmi, you speak slowly so that you can give them time for translation.

†[]شری محمد سلیم: یہ تو آپ ان دونوں کی اردو کو بھی بی جے ایف آر میں بھیجنے کی بات کر رہے ہیں۔]

†[]مولانا عبیداللہ خاں اعظمی: میں بالکل سمپل اردو بول رہا ہوں۔ میں یہ کہہ رہا ہوں کہ مزدور کا کمال یہ ہے کہ وہ بنجر زمین کو بھی محنت کرکے اس لائق

†[]Transliteration in Arabic Script.

کمپنیاں ہیں، انکی ہمیشہ یہ کوشش رہی ہے کہ ہم لوگ انکے بندھوا بن جائیں، جبکہ آزادی کے بعد سے اب تک ہماری یہ پالیسی رہی ہے کہ ہم کارخانوں کو پیدا کریں اور اپنی ضرورت کو پورا کرنے میں خود کفیل ہوں، باہری طاقتیں اور ملک کی کمپنیاں کس طرح ملک کو ان کی ناقابندی کرتی ہیں اور وہ اپنا غلام بنا کر رکھنا چاہتی ہیں۔ وہ جگ ظاہر ہے اور عراق کی مثال بھی ہماری نگاہ کے سامنے ہے۔

ایک بات اور کہوں گا سر، کہ خود ہندستان میں ہم نے جو ایٹمی دھماکہ کرکے اپنے ملک کی شان بڑھائی ہے دنیا کے سفیکیڈ اور اور لاشوں کے وپاپاری ملکوں نے ہم لوگوں پر جس طرح کی آرتھک معاشی پابندیاں لگائی ہیں اور ہمیں خوف و ہراست کے ماحول میں مبتلا کر رکھا ہے، ہمیں سوچنا چاہیئے کہ کیا ہم اپنے کارخانے بند کرکے اگر دنیا کے محتاج ہو جائیں تو کیا دنیا ہماری اس محتاجگی کا فائدہ نہیں اٹھائیگی۔ میں حکومت سے دخواست کرونگا کہ ہمت کے ساتھ اپنے بند کارخانوں کو چلا کر آپ اپنی مجبوری کے بجائے اپنی معاشی آزادی کا اعلان کریں تو زیادہ بہتر ہوگا۔

ہونے تک نہیں ملیگی، دلتوں کو، مسلمانوں کو، غریب پچھڑے ہوئے لوگوں کو، پھر اگر آپ یہ بات کہیں گے کہ یہ کارخانے گھاٹے پر چل رہے ہیں اور اس بنیاد پر انھیں بند کیا جا رہا ہے، تو میں پوچھنا چاہتا ہوں کہ جو حکومتیں گھاٹے کا بجٹ دیتی ہیں، کیا ان حکومتوں کی دکانداری سمیٹ کر آپ ان حکومتوں پر تالا لگوا دیں گے؟

سر، حکومت معاوضہ دیکر لوگوں کی روزی روٹی چھیننے کی بجائے اگر اسی رقم سے کل کارخانے کو کارگر بنانے کی کوشش کرتی تو وہ زیادہ بہتر قدم ہوتا۔ ویسے بھی حکومت کی ذمہ داری ہے کہ وہ خراب سسٹم کو بہتر بنائے۔ جو جانور لاعلاج ہوتے ہیں ان کے لئے مرسی کلینک قانون بھی ہے کہ انھیں مار ڈالا جائے، مگر یہ کس قانون میں آتا ہے کہ کارخانے اگر بیمار ہو جائیں تو ان میں کام کرنے والے مزدوروں کو لاعلاج سمجھ کر مار ڈالا جائے؟ میں اپنے وزیر صنعت کو مخاطب کرتے ہوئے یہ کہنا چاہونگا۔

اب مدعا جاں بخشی سنا کیوں نہیں دیتے
تم کیسے مسیحا ہو دوا کیوں نہیں دیتے

سر، مجھے یہ افسوس ہے کہ جو بڑی بڑی

†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script

†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script

SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I thank you for permitting me to participate in the discussion on the reported decision of the Government to close down eight public sector undertakings. I, on behalf of my party, express my concern and anguish towards this trend of closing down public sector undertakings. Sir, 10,500 families depend on these eight public sector undertakings. All these families would be on the streets if these public sector undertakings are closed down. In my State of Andhra Pradesh, some public sector undertakings are facing many problems. The Hindustan Machine Tools, which is known throughout the world, the Hindustan Cables Ltd., which was the base of our telecom industry, the Vizag Steel Plant, for which we fought and lost a number of lives, the Republic Forge, which produces defence equipments and the Praga Tools are facing some problems. They are all sick. They are on the verge of closure. The IDPL which supplies drugs and antibiotics at a very cheap price all over the country, is on the verge of closure. It has almost been closed down. They are paying salary to the workers every month for not doing any work. I am thankful to the Government for sanctioning a revival package. Sir, the management and the workers requested the Central Government to increase the grant so that this industry could be run efficiently. They have made so many requests, but the Government has not taken any action so far. The Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Industry in Visakhapatnam is not getting any orders. It will also become sick. Earlier, ISRO was giving orders and getting the supply to its satisfaction. But now ISRO is approaching the private sector. I request the Government to take note of it.

3.00 P.M.

Sir, I must also tell the House that previously the public sector units were making losses, but now they are

increasing their profits every year. This is as per the reply given by the hon. Minister on the 7th December. He himself had said that in 1994-95, they made a profit of Rs. 7,187 crores; in 1995-96, the profit was Rs. 9,574 crores and in 1996-97, it was Rs. 10,258 crores. This shows that the public sector units are running well and they are making more profits. The hon. Minister also stated, while replying to that question, that a number of revival measures had been taken by the Government besides Plan and non-Plan assistance provided by the Government. Revival measures are continuous in nature and the overall positive result will be achieved over a period of time. This is what the hon. Minister himself had said. But, unfortunately, looking at the present situation,—though the Minister had been kind enough to promise the House—there is a fear in the working class that this reported decision of the Government to close down eight units will be a beginning of the closure of some more of the public sector units. I appeal to the Government, through you, that this trend of closing down the public sector undertakings should be reversed, and he should put all efforts to revive and encourage the public sector undertakings to run profitably. PSUs are our children. They are the children of our great nation. Let us strengthen them. Let us not be a party in denying the livelihood of the families of the working class employed in the public sector undertakings.

श्रीमती सरोज दुबे (बिहार): माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं अपनी बात बहुत संक्षेप में करूंगी। मैं इंडस्ट्री मिनिस्टर द्वारा 8 सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों को बन्द करने के लिए लिए गए निर्णय का पुरजोर विरोध करने के लिए खड़ी हुई हूं, क्योंकि यह जो सार्वजनिक उपक्रम है, इनका अपना अलग महत्व है क्योंकि आजादी के बाद अधिकतर औद्योगिक विकास इन्हीं उपक्रमों द्वारा शुरू हुआ था। देश की अर्थ-व्यवस्था में इन सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों का बहुत बड़ा योगदान रहा है और इन्होंने देश की अर्थ-व्यवस्था को एक मजबूती दी थी। यही कारण है कि देश के प्रथम प्रधान मंत्री पंडित जवाहर लाल नेहरू जब इन कल कारखानों का उद्घाटन करते थे या शुरुआत करते थे तो वे कहा करते थे कि इस देश के कल कारखाने और इस देश के बड़े-बड़े बांध इस देश के मंदिर-मस्जिद और गुरुद्वारे हैं और इनके प्रति हमें सदैव वफादार रहना चाहिए, इनके प्रति हमें नतमस्तक रहना चाहिए। आज वही हमारे कारखाने जिन्होंने देश की अर्थ-व्यवस्था को शुरुआती मजबूती दी, उनको बन्द करने की घोषणा करके हमारे मंत्री जी ने उन मजदूरों के साथ, उन कर्मचारियों के साथ, उनके परिवारों के साथ बड़ा भारी अन्याय किया है, जिन कर्मचारियों ने अपना खून-पसीना बहाकर इन उद्योगों को खड़ा किया था। इन उद्योगों को खड़ा करने में किसी बड़े दिमाग वाले अफसर का काम नहीं था बल्कि मजदूरों के हाथों का कमाल था, उनकी कुशलता का कमाल था।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे यह कहने में कोई संकोच नहीं है, आज जिस तरह का वातावरण हो रहा है, जिस तरह का माहौल बनता रहा है इसमें मंदिर-मस्जिद-गुरुद्वारा तो सचमुच में सुरक्षित नहीं हैं। साथ ही साथ यह जो मंदिर-मस्जिद-गुरुद्वारा कहे जाने वाले हमारे बड़े-बड़े कल कारखाने जो मजदूरों को, कर्मचारियों को और उनके परिवारों को रोजी-रोटी देते हैं, वह भी सुरक्षित नहीं हैं। यह बड़े अफसोस की बात है कि इनको बंद करने की बात कही जा रही है। अगर कोई इंसान बीमार होता है तो उसका इलाज कराया जाता है उसको जहर का इंजेक्शन देकर मार नहीं दिया जाता है। लेकिन यहां पर सब उल्टा हो रहा है। इन सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों को बन्द करने की जो घोषणा की है इससे साढ़े दस हजार मजदूर और हजारों की संख्या में उनके परिवार के सदस्यों के भूखे मरने की नौबत आ जाएगी। भारत सरकार से मैं यह पूछना चाहती हूं कि क्या इन सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों को बन्द करने में इन मजदूरों का हाथ था? यदि नहीं, तो फिर इन्हें सजा क्यों दी जा रही है। आप ने बी०आई०एफ०आर० नाम की एक संस्था बना दी है। जो भी कारखाने रुग्णता की अवस्था की ओर जाने लगते हैं, उनको बी०आई०एफ०आर० में भेज दिया जाता है। बी०आई०एफ०आर० की काम करने की गति बहुत धीमी है और जो भी कंपनी रिकमेण्ड होकर बी०आई०एफ०आर० में चली जाती है तो फिर उसका काम बिल्कुल बन्द हो जाता है क्योंकि उस उपक्रम को कोई काम नहीं देता है। उसके ताबूत में बी०आई०एफ०आर० अंतिम कील ठोकने का काम कर देता है। क्योंकि कोई बीमार इंसान से काम नहीं लिया करता है, कोई बीमार कम्पनी को वर्क आर्डर नहीं दिया करता है। सर्वप्रथम

बा०आई०एफ०आर० का गठन ठीक से नहीं हुआ, उसके कई मेम्बर बहुत समय तक नहीं रहे। उसके धीमा काम करने का ढंग और जो काम करने का भारतीय तरीका है उसी तरीके से काम होता रहा और हमारी ये कम्पनियां धीरे-धीरे और अधिक रुग्णता को प्राप्त होती चली गईं, जिसके दुष्परिणाम आज इन लोगों को भुगतने पड़ रहे हैं। इसके बाद आप कहते हैं कि कर्मचारियों को वी०आर०एस० देंगे। वी०आर०एस० का असली स्वरूप आपने किसी कम्पनी में जाकर देखा होता तो आपको पता चलता। वी०आर०एस० तो आप दे सकते हैं लेकिन जो पैसा आप वी०आर०एस० में देने की बात करते हैं उसको आप उस फैक्ट्री के नवीनीकरण में नहीं दे सकते? वी०आर०एस० आमतौर पर उन मजदूरों और कर्मचारियों को नहीं मिलता है जिनको स्वेच्छा से रिटायरमेंट चाहिए या जिनको स्वैच्छिक अवकाश चाहिए बल्कि वी०आर०एस० उन लोगों को फायदा पहुंचाने के लिए दिया जाता है जो बड़े अफसरों की चमचागिरी करते है या उनके विशेष प्रिय होते हैं। अगर कोई भी कर्मचारी अच्छा काम करता है तो उसे वहां से जाने के लिए एकदम मजबूर कर दिया जाता है। यहां तक उसको मजबूर किया जाता है कि वह वी०आर०एस० न मांगे और खुद नौकरी छोड़कर चला जाए। यह वीआरएस तो मजदूरों को, कर्मचारियों को सताने व उनके उत्पीड़न के लिए यह नया यंत्र तैयार कर दिया गया है। जिस तरह समाज में सारी चीजों का बंटवारा केवल चंद लोगों के लिए है उसी प्रकार वी०आर०एस० की स्कीम भी केवल उन्हीं लोगों के लिए है जो अपने अफसरों की निगाह में अच्छे होते हैं या उनकी चमचागिरी करते हैं। आप वी०आर०एस० पर जो करोड़ों रुपए खर्च करने को तैयार हैं यदि उसी पैसे को आप उपक्रमों के नवीनीकरण पर खर्च कर देते तो आपका मजदूरों के ऊपर बड़ा अहसान हो जाता।

इन कम्पनियों को बन्द करने में सरकार का भी बहुत बड़ा हाथ है। आप जो भी वर्क आर्डर देते हैं वह अपनी कम्पनियों, सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों को न देकर मल्टीनेशनल ग्रुप को दे देते हैं प्राइवेट लोगों को दे देते हैं। आपकी बड़ी-बड़ी फैक्ट्रियां हैं उनमें बड़ी-बड़ी मशीनें खामोश खड़ी हैं। उनको कोई वर्क आर्डर नहीं मिलता है। आज भी हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश के इलाहाबाद में भारत पम्प्स एंड कम्प्रैसर्स, त्रिवेणी स्ट्रक्चर्स लि० अंतरराष्ट्रीय ख्याति प्राप्त कम्पनी हैं, ये पेट्रोलियम विभाग के लिए बड़े-बड़े टैंकर बनाने का जो काम करती हैं उसमें भारत पम्प्स एंड कम्प्रैशर्स को महारत हासिल है। परन्तु आज वह वर्क आर्डर के अभाव में एक शिफ्ट में चल रही है। वहां पर मजदूर हाथ पर हाथ रखकर बैठे हुए हैं। क्या उसमें इन मजदूरों की कोई गलती है? किसका दोष है? आज सरकार मल्टीनेशनल कं० के बड़े-बड़े ग्रुप्स को अपने आर्डर दे रही है और हमारे मजदूर काम के अभाव में हाथ पर हाथ रखकर बैठे हुए हैं। 15-20 दिन या महीने भर में कम्पनी में ताला लगाने की नौबत आ जायेगी। क्या चाहते हैं आप? त्रिवेणी स्ट्रक्चर्स लि० कंपनी भी बहुत ख्याति प्राप्त कंपनी है जिसका उद्घाटन पं० जवाहरलाल नेहरू जी ने किया था। यह उस जमाने की ख्याति प्राप्त कम्पनी है जबकि अन्य कम्पनियां उस समय अस्तित्व में नहीं थीं मगर आज वह रुग्ण हो गयी है उसने कुछ सुधार किया है लेकिन उसके पास वर्क आर्डर हैं पर पैसा नहीं है। ये दोनों कम्पनियां बी०आई०एफ०आर० को फर की गई थी और बड़े संघर्ष के बाद ये बी०आई०एफ०आर० से निकली और उनको रिवाइवल पैकेज मंजूर हुआ। लैकिन सरकार का उनके प्रति वही सौतेला रवैया रहा। रिवाइवल पैकेज में इनको पैसा देना था पर सरकार ने धनराशि नहीं दी। **(समय की घंटी)**

सर, मैं बहुत संक्षेप में अपनी बात कहती हूं कि बी०आई०एफ०आर० से उपक्रम के बाहर आने के बाद बैंकों को उन्हें पैसा देना था, उन्हें बैंक गारन्टी मिलनी थी। यह सब भी कुछ नहीं किया गया। थोड़ा सा पैसा देकर फिर गैप दे दिया और काम रुक गया और दशा बिगड़ गयी। कम्पनी का मजदूर काम करने को तैयार है, कम्पनी का कर्मचारी काम करने को तैयार है।

महोदय, मुझे कोई संकोच नहीं है यह कहने में कि कम्पनी के शीर्षस्थ अधिकारी जो ऊंचे पदों पर बैठे हुए हैं, जानबूझकर टेंडर्स को छोड़ देते है मल्टीनेशनल कम्पनियों से पैसा लेकर। इस तरह से वह टेंडर मल्टीनेशनल कम्पनी के पास चला जाता है और हमारे मजदूर हाथ पर हाथ रखकर बैठे रह जाते हैं। सार्वजनिक उपक्रम के लिए यह कहा जाता है कि इनकी ओल्ड टेक्नीक है, इन्हें बी०आई०एफ०आर० में दे दिया जाना चाहिए। आप इन कम्पनियों का क्यों नहीं मॉडर्नाइजेशन करते? क्यों नहीं आप सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों को उन्नत बनाने का काम करते? आई०टी०आई० आज बन्द होने के कगार पर है जो कि देश में इतना नाम कमाने वाली कम्पनी है। स्वदेशी कॉटन मिल भी बन्द होने के कगार पर है इरास्ट्रक्चर तैयार है, बुनियादी ढांचा खड़ा हुआ है लेकिन सरकार की कार्यशैली की धीमी गति और बी०आई०एफ०आर० ने मिलकर इन कम्पनियों को

बिलकुल गतिहीन कर रखा है। इसलिए, उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपसे कहना चाहती हूं कि इन कंपनियों को बंद करने का इरादा छोड दीजिए। सरकार के जितने भी काम होते हैं, जितने भी वर्क आर्डर होते हैं, उसकी एक सीमा निश्चित कर दीजिए कि 40 प्रतिशत तक सरकारी आर्डर सार्वजनिक उपक्रम को देंगे। आप मल्टीनेशनल्स को भी काम दीजिए, हमें इस पर कोई ऐतराज नहीं है। लेकिन इन सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों को जीने देने के लिए कम से कम 40 प्रतिशत आर्डर प्राथमिकता के आधार पर दीजिए ताकि इनमें मजदूर और कर्मचारी काम करते रहें। साथ ही प्रबंध में मजदूरों को भागीदारी दीजिए। युनाइटेड फ्रंट का यह नारा था कि सभी फैक्टरियों में, कंपनियों में उसके प्रबंधन में मजदूरों को भागीदारी दी जाए। अगर आप ऐसा करेंगे तो कर्मचारी मन लगाकर काम करेंगे। लेकिन अगर आपका इन कंपनियों को बंद करने का इरादा है तो यह बहुत ही चिंता का विषय है और यह देश के बुनियादी ढांचे के प्रतिकूल है। गरीब मजदूरों को रोजीरोटी देने और देश के कुशल हाथों से काम लेने का जो बुनियादी ढांचा था ऐसा करके उसको आप समाप्त करने का काम कर रहे हैं। समाजवादी पैटर्न के ढांचे के आधार पर यह देश चल रहा था, जिसमें सार्वजनिक उपक्रम भी बढ़ रहे थे और निजी क्षेत्र भी बढ़ रहा था। लेकिन निजी क्षेत्र को बढ़ावा देकर, मल्टीनेशनल्स को बढ़ावा देकर आप देश के मजदूरों को मारना चाहते हैं। आपका यह बहुत ही गलत कदम है। इसका मैं विरोध करती हूं और फिर से अनुरोध करती हूं कि सरकार इन उपक्रमों को बंद करने का जो काम कर रही है। उसके बारे में फिर से विचार करे। सरकार सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों की पुनः समीक्षा करे तथा उनको उचित धनराशि प्रदान कर उनको उचित सलाह दें और संरक्षण प्रदान करे ताकि समय रहते हुए वे संभल सकें। इन संस्थाओं को सरकार कच्चे माल की आपूर्ति करे। अगर आप ऐसा करेंगे तो फिर आप मजदूरों के हाथों का कमाल देखेंगे। यह जो बीमार उपक्रम हैं रुग्ण उपक्रम हैं जो बी०आई०एफ०आर० की मार से और भी अस्वस्थ हो गए हैं ये कितना अच्छा काम कर सकते हैं यह आप तभी देख पाएंगे। आप देखेंगे कि इनके हाथों में कितना कमाल है। आप इन मजदूरों को बेकार मत करिए क्योंकि जब एक मजदूर बेकार होता है तो उसके परिवार के 15 आदमियों को भूखे मरने की नौबत आ जाती है। इन मजदूरों की बद-दुआ मत लीजिए। अगर हजारों मजदूर सड़क पर आ जायेंगे तो उनके आंसू तेजाब बन बह निकलेंगे और आपकी कुर्सी को गलाकर खाक कर देंगे। मजदूरों की दुआ लेने का आप काम करिए। यह देश गरीबों और मेहनतकश लोगों के दम पर टिका हुआ है। यह देश किसानों के बल पर टिका हुआ है। इसको बर्बाद करने की कोशिश मत कीजिए। मैं फिर आपसे अनुरोध करूंगी कि आप मजदूरों और कर्मचारियों को प्रबंधन में भागीदारी देने का काम करें और फिर देखिए कि मजदूर कितनी तेजी से काम करते हैं। अंतर्राष्ट्रीय ख्याति प्राप्त और अवार्ड प्राप्त जो संस्थायें हैं उनको बंद करने का काम आप मत करिए। आप अपना काम करने का ढंग सुधारिए। आप बी०आई०एफ०आर० की वर्किंग और उसकी आपरेटिंग एजेंसीज की वर्किंग सुधारिए तथा बैंक जो इन लोगों को तंग करते हैं उसकी कार्यशैली सुधारने का काम करें। बैंकों से इनको धनराशि दिलवाने की प्रक्रिया में सुधार करिए और फाइलों को जरा जल्दी चलाने की आदत डालिए। अगर आप ऐसा करते हैं तो फिर आप देखेंगे कि सारे मजदूर किस तरह से काम करते हैं। वह अपनी खोई हुई ख्याति को अवश्य प्राप्त करेंगे और देश की अर्थ-व्यवस्था को मजबूत बनाने के लिए बराबर से हाथ बटायेंगे।

इसलिए मैं फिर आपसे अनुरोध करती हूं, आपसे पुरजोर आग्रह करती हूं कि कृपा करके इन सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों को बंद करने की कोशिश न करें क्योंकि एक तरफ तो आपने रिटायरमेंट की आयु सीमा को बढ़ाकर वैसे ही रोजगार के रास्ते बंद कर दिए हैं और हजारों-लाखों लोगों को आपने सड़क पर ला खड़ा कर दिया है। अगर आपने एक के बाद एक सार्वजनिक उपक्रम भी बंद करने शुरू कर दिए तो यहां बेरोजगारों का हुजूम खड़ा हो जाएगा और जब बेरोज़गारों का हुजूम खड़ा हो जाएगा तो उस हुजूम में ये मजदूर भी शामिल होकर सड़कों पर आ जायेंगे, यह देश के लिए बेहद गंभीर स्थिति होगी। इसलिए आप इस पर फिर से विचार करिए। अगर आप ऐसा नहीं करेंगे तो हम लोगों का कड़ा विरोध जारी रहेगा। ये देश की रीढ़ है और देश की अर्थ-व्यवस्था को मजबूत बनाने वाले हैं। इसमें राजनैतिक दखलन्दाजी बंद करें और इनको स्वायत्तता देकर इनको काम करने का मौका दीजिए। ये आगे बढ़ेंगे तो देश का सम्मान बढ़ेगा और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय क्षेत्र में अपने उत्पादनों के जरिए वे इस देश का गौरव बढ़ायेंगे और इस देश की अर्थ-व्यवस्था को मजबूत करेंगे। धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): We have completed the list partywise. Still, I have three names from different parties. I will permit them to seek clarifications only.

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम (उत्तर प्रदेश): श्रीमन, मुझे एक शेर याद आ रहा है। (व्यवधान)

उपसभाध्यक्ष: (श्री जॉन एफ॰ फर्नांडिस) अभी नहीं पहले इसे खत्म करने दीजिये।

SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA (Gujarat): Mr. Vice-Chairman Sir, I would like to seek clarification on three points from the hon. Minister: Whether I am right in presuming that if I were a worker in any of the public sector units, I would be relieved to take home, say, five-six lakhs of rupees rather than worry about whether I am going to get my salary in future. Because a lot of public sector units have slowed down on payment of wages. I also could take the example of Soviet Union which was entirely public sector oriented. Since the 17th August, no salaries have been paid to Government servants and also to public sector servants. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: This is totally irrelevant and the Member has no right....(*Interruptions*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): I know he is aware that hte Soviet Union has disintegrated. (*Interruption*)

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Sir, a point of order. (*Interruption*) The worker is not here and he cannot defend himself. (*Interruption*) He does not have the right to denigrate the worker by saying that he does not want to work. (*Interruption*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES) Mr. Goradia, confine yourself to the statement of the Minister, please. (*Interruptions*) One minute, Mr. Basu. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: You cannot dishonour the worker. (*Interruption*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Will you confine yourself to the statement of the hon. Minister?

SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Very well, Sir. (*Interruptions*) The managements would be relieved from managing something that is very sick. The only question in my mind, is, what happens to the trade unions. My sympathy is with the trade unions because they lose patronage over so many workers and members. (*Interruptions*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN. F. FERNANDES): One minute, please, That is his view. (*Interruptions*) That is his view and you cannot stop him. (*Interruptions*) Please...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Sir, the worker will get his compensation. The Government will save money in bleeding losses. The managements will be free of their difficult responsibilities. But, what about the poor trade unions, Sir? They lose members'....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI JOBON ROY: The Government will take care of them. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: He is supporting only the delinquent industrialists. (*Interruptions*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN. F. FERNANDES): Mr. Das Gupta, you cannot compel him to speak only for one section. (*Interruptions*) Mr. Goradia, Please conclude. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: He is an industrialist and he can talk. (*Interruptions*)

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम: इंडस्ट्री तभी तो चलेगी जब इंडस्ट्रीयलिस्ट और वर्कर दोनों कोआप्रेट करेंगे। (व्यवधान)

श्री नीलोत्पल बसु: उनको खत्म करना चाहते हैं। (व्यवधान) वही तो वायस है बी॰जे॰पी॰ की (व्यवधान)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Kindly put pointed questions to the hon. Minister. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JOBON ROY: You are an industrialist and you want industrialists to thrive. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: I am asking whether he has thought about it or not. Sir, the hon. Minister can enlighten me whether my thinking is right that he has done nothing for the trade unions. (*Interruptions*) My another direct question to the hon. Minister is: Does not less State/patronage means more corruption, as corruption hits the poor people? So those who are arguing for the poor people should really demand reduction in State patronage. (*Interruptions*) Just one more point, Sir. (*Interruption*) Sir, after all, I have not taken much time.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN. F. FERNANDES): Let him conclude. We do not have the time. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Sir, the other thing is Mr. Ravi has mentioned this—about modern management and about strategic marketing, etc. That is not possible if the public sector is going to be directed by a Joint Secretary who is a first class educated person, but who is not trained to manipulate materials. They are trained to administer and maintain law and order. So how is all this possible? I hope, the hon. Minister would enlighten me on these few points. Thank you.

SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: I have not much to seek by way of clarification from the Minster because he has, in his statement, made his intention very clear; but I would like to detail on some concepts which the hon. Minister has kept before the House. Sir, thank you very much, at the outset, for allowing me inspite of the fact that I abdicated my time in favour of Mr. Dipankar Mukherjee. Sir, an impression is sought to be created in the country, specially, after the onset of the era of liberalisation. The impression which is being orchestrated, which is being propagated, is that the public sector undertakings have no role to play in the years to come in our country and they should be given a decent burial. That must be the campaign that is being waged by some vested interests in this country. Sir, the days of public sector industries retaining the commanding heights of our economy have gone. We have to reconcile ourselves to that fact. We cannot derive any consolation by looking at the Soviet Union and saying that they have not paid wages...(*Interruptions*) Right from day one, when the Industrial Policy Resolution was accepted by the Congress Party and the Congress Government, we tried to encourage consciously a mixed economy. We did give sufficient emphasis on the public sector undertakings. But, at the same time, we did not rule out the possibility of the private sector flourishing in our country. When we held the scale even between the public sector and the private sector, we were almost in favour of public sector getting an important say in matters of our economy. Now, 10,000 families are going to be affected by the closure of these seven or eight or nine industries and perhaps another ten thousand are going to be affected when you are going to come before this House again saying that the BIFR has recommended for the closure of further undertakings. Now, I would like to pose this question: Who are responsible for making these public sector undertakings sick? We blame only the working force. But have they any say in the policies? Sir, most of our public sector undertakings are being managed at the highest level by IAS officers and in certain cases by IPS officers also. So, in these 10,000 people have you included any IAS officers or any IPS officers? They have run these public sector undertakings. But once any public sector unit goes into loss, conveniently they move on to some other public sector undertaking so that they can destroy that also. I would like the Government to work out a mechanism by which these IAS officers, IPS officers and others on whom the responsibility of running these

units on a profitable basis are held responsible. They should be made accountable. So, if some kind of a mechanism is evolved by the present Government, then, I think, you will be doing a great service to this country. You like it or not, the public sector has come to stay, the public sector has got to be strengthened. You cannot wish away the public sector in our scheme of things. But accountability need not necessarily be planned-down to the workers. Those who have been charged with the responsibility of managing these industries must also be made accountable and they should be held responsible. If they do not do their job well, they should be amenable to punishment. Thank you.

SHRI R.K. KUMAR (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I will be very, very brief. I want to raise only some pertinent questions. Sir, I do not want to go into the philosophy of public sector or the private sector. The question here is whether a unit, in the public sector or in the private sector, is economically feasible or financially viable for revival. Who is to decide whether a unit is financially viable or economically revivable? It is the BIFR. That is the reason why in 1986, the Act, SICA, came into force and in 1992, the public sector units came into the fold of the BIFR. My brief question to the hon. Minister is on the working of the BIFR. The very preamble of the BIFR says that it should be a body of experts. But, somehow, it has become a post-retirement sanctuary for bureaucrats. Earlier the retirement age was 58 years. The people made it in such a way that by joining BIFR they can go upto the age of 62 years. So, it works in a typical bureaucratic manner. Earlier it had a full strength of fourteen members but now it is languishing with only just two members. What happens, particularly, in private sector undertakings is, when a case goes before the BIFR for considering whether it is revivable or not, the private sector management takes a decision about infusion of further capital etc. My friends have been compalining that when the BIFR says that so much fresh capital has to be injected into public sector units, the Government takes years to give a reply whether they will invest the capital or not. So, what happens is, we are pack to square one. Sir, in business, delay costs money. Operating agencies prepare revival schemes. What they do is, they suggest further infusion of capital, loans, sacrifice by unions and so many other factors. But, here it takes two years to get an answer from the Government and by that time, the cost escalates. The capital cost goes up. Everything goes up. There is a practice, I beg your pardon, in South India, of narrating stories from Ramayana and Mahabharata. Sir, in a richman's house the story of Ramayan starts. Rama would have gone to *vanavas*. But, afterwards, some other richman enters and the story starts again from the birth of Rama and Sita. That is what is happening in the BIFR. You are going back to square one. My point is whether the Government will, at least, now, bring the new SICA Bill. I do not know. I had seen the draft of it. But, the BIFR should be a body of experts. They should pay immediate attention to the problem. When the BIFR asks the Government about public sector undertakings as to what they are going to do in respect of infusion of further capital or reduction of number of works-force,.

etc., for god's sake, take quick decisions so that we do not go, after two years, back to square one and say that it is not revivable and is not viable, so send every one home. What is required is, urgency. The BIFR should be manned by experts and it should be filled up quickly. Of course, it is not in the hands of the Ministry of Industry. It is with the Ministry of Finance. The vacancies in the BIFR should be filled up. It should not be a post-retirement sanctuary for burcaucrats to go there and be there upto 62 years of age. Real experts should be appointed and the Government should react quickly to the BIFR revival package. This is my submission.

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: सदर साहब, मुझे बेहद खुशी हुई है कि इन लोगों ने इस सब्जैक्ट में बेहद दिलचस्पी जाहिर की है और बहुत सारी तज़वीज़ें आई हैं। मैं अपनी बात-चीत को दो हिस्सों में तकसीम करना चाहूंगा। पहले तो मैं आम तौर पर जो मैम्बर साहिबान ने बातें कही हैं उनका कुछ जिक्र करुंगा और उसके बाद आखिर में कन्क्लूडिंग रिमार्क्स मेरे अपने जाति होंगे। बुनियादी बात जो प्रेक्टिकली ज्यादा तकरीरों में शामिल रही है उसमें एक जबर्दस्त मफ़रूज़ा है, सपोज़ीशंस हैं। मफ़रूज़ा यह है कि पी०एस०यूज़ को बंद करने का मकसद मज़दूर के साथ ज्यादती करने का है। मैं इस चीज़ को शुरू में ही बहुत साफ कर देना चाहता हूं कि मज़दूरों में हरेक को दिलचस्पी है, आपको है, आपको है, आपको है। हमें गलतफहमी यह है कि हमें भी मज़दूरों में दिलचस्पी है। बात सिर्फ इतनी है कि क्या मज़दूर को सदा के लिए किसी बीमा कंपनी में बंधे रहने के लिए सिसक-सिसक कर जिन्दगी गुजारने का मौका दिया जाए। या उस को नए मजबूत कदमों में उठने का कोई मौका दिया जाए। पहली बात मैं अपनी सरसरी कर रहा हूं। मैं अपने कनक्लूडिंग रिमार्क्स में इस पर डायलेट करुंगा, कुछ और खोलकर बात कहूंगा।

सदर साहब, मज़दूर के साथ दुश्मनी का सवाल नहीं है। हम इरादतन यह कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि जो मज़दूर डूबने वाली किश्ती में बैठा हुआ है, उस को डूबने वाली किश्ती से बाहर निकालें और उन को नई जिंदगी शुरू करने का मौका दें।

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†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script

یہ ہے کہ ۰۰۰ کروڑ میں ریوائیو کرنے کا سوال نہیں ہے بلکہ ۲۳۰۰ اپوائنٹ ۷ کروڑ کی ضرورت ریوائیو کرنے کے لئے ہوگی۔ آپ نے بہت سارے فیگرس دے دیئے ہیں، میں اسمیں پڑنا نہیں چاہتا اور یہ بھی ۱۹۹۳ اور ۹۴ کی بات پر رہے تھے۔ تو وہ جو اکنامیک کا سوال میرے عزیز دوست نے اٹھایا تھا وہ بالکل غلط روشنی میں دیکھا جا رہا ہے ۰۰۰ "مداخلت" ۰۰۰

श्री दीपांकर मुखर्जी: वह बिल्कुल सही सलामत है। ...(**व्यवधान**)... I stick to my figures. This figure which you have read includes the structural cost. It is not just capital infusion.

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: मैं हाजिर होता हूं। आप की खिदमत में भी हाजिर होता हूं। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Mr. Mukherjee, please let the Minister speak. *(Interruption)*. No, no. Let the Minister conclude; then you can raise any points. Let the Minister conclude first. *(Interruption)*. No, no. If you distract like this, you won't get a reply.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: We are not challenging his general formulations. But when he quotes figures, then they should be authentic. The House should not be misled. We are on a point of order on the rules that he cannot quote figures which are not authentic.

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: सर, यह पांइट ऑफ ऑर्डर तो नहीं है, लेकिन फिर मैं अजीज दोस्त की खिदमत में अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि ...(**व्यवधान**)...

میں اپنی سرسری کہہ رہا ہوں، میں اپنے کنکلوژن نے مارکس میں اس پر ڈائیلیٹ کروں گا، بچے اور کھول کر بات کہوں گا۔

صدر صاحب۔ مزدور کے ساتھ دشمنی کا سوال نہیں ہے، ہم ارادتاً یہ کوشش کر رہے ہیں کہ جو مزدور ڈوبنے والی کشتی میں بیٹھا ہوا ہے، اسکو ڈوبنے والی کشتی سے باہر نکالیں اور انکو نئی زندگی شروع کرنے کا موقع دیں۔

اب چھوٹی چھوٹی باتیں ہیں۔ ہمارے عزیز گوردا س داس گپتا جی نے پہلی جو بات کہی تھی، آپ ارقہ میٹکس یا اکانومیکس کا ذکر کر رہے تھے، آپ کی اجازت سے میں کہہ رہا ہوں ۱۷۵ کروڑ میں ان لوگوں کو وائنڈ اپ کرنے کے لئے گورنمنٹ نے سہولیت نکالی ہے، آپ کہہ رہے تھے کہ ۰۰۰ کروڑ میں یہ ریوائیو کی جا سکتی ہے۔ میں خالی فیگرس دوست کر دوں، اس ۱۷۵ کروڑ میں سے ۲۹۱ کروڑ نکال دیجئے کیونکہ وہ اسٹیٹوٹری ڈیوٹیز ہیں، وہ ہر صورت دینے جائیں گے، چاہے بنجر وی۔ آر۔ ایف۔ کی سہولیت کے وائنڈ اپ کیا جائے یا وی۔ آر۔ ایف کی سہولیت کے ساتھ دیا جائے۔ تو ۱۷۵ کروڑ میں سے یہ ۳۰۰ کروڑ سے نکال دیں تو ۱۲۰ کروڑ کے باقی بچتا ہے۔ تیسری بات

†شری سکندر بخت: سر یہ پوائنٹ آف آرڈر تو نہیں ہے۔ لیکن پھر میں عزیز دوست کی خدمت میں عرض کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ ... "مداخلت" ...

श्री नीलोत्पल बसु: यह पाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर क्यों नहीं है? ...(**व्यवधान**)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Mr. Nilotpal Basu, I request you to let the ...*(Interruption)*. Please ..*(Interruption)*.. Let the hon. Minister complete his reply; then you can seek clarifications. You cannot distract him. Mr. Minister...*(Interruption)*.

SHRI SINKARNDER BAKHT: I am not yielding.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): The Minister is not yielding.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: I am not yieling at all. And this practice should be given up.

अफसोसनाक बात यह है कि ये सवाल भी करते हैं और जवाब भी खुद ही देने की कोशिश करते हैं ...(**व्यवधान**)... मैंने मुंह फेर लिया है, एक वक्त पर दस आदमी सवाल नहीं उठाएंगे। मैं जवाब नहीं दूंगा। आई एम सॉरी, मुझे माफी दीजिए।

आप ने एक सवाल उठाया कि फिगर अथॉन्टिक कीजिए। मैं यहां बयान जो दे रहा हूं, वह रिकॉर्ड का हिस्सा बन गया है और वह अथान्टिक इनफ है। यह सिर्फ कहने की खातिर बात न कहें। मैं गुरुदास दासगुप्त जी की बात कहना चाहता हूं। आप ने एम०ए०एम०सी० का जिक्र किया था और सिफारिश की थी कि उस को रिवाइव किया जाए। आप ने मुझे एडवाइस किया था। आप को शायद मालूम नहीं है कि चार दफा इस के रिवाइवल की, इस के रिस्ट्रक्चरिंग की कोशिश हो चुकी है और इस दफा जो कदम उठाया गया है वह चार दफा की नाकाम रिस्ट्रक्चरिंग के बाद उठाया गया है। बस, मैंने कहा था कि 'Government has no business to be in business.' अब यह जुमला तो बहुत अखबारों में आ चुका है। I stick to that in spite of the fact that today I am the Industry Ministry. Today, I am a Minister in the Ministry of Industry. नोइंगली उठाया है क्योंकि मैं यह मानता हूं कि गवर्नमेंट का काम लोगों को आम जिंदगी की सहूलियतें पहुंचाना है।

तालीम हासिल पूरी होनी चाहिए, जो नहीं है। सेहत का बंदोबस्त होना चाहिए, नहीं है। यह काम है गवर्नमेंट के बुनियादी तौर पर करना। अगर गवर्नमेंट दुकानदारी में लग जाएगी तो उसको फुरसत कहां मिलेगी यह बुनियादी जिम्मेदारियां पूरी करने की। इसलिए कहा था, लेकिन कांटेक्ट उसका क्या था, उसका जिक्र आप कभी नहीं कर सके। छोड़ दीजिए, मगर I am sticking to that statement. I am not backing out.

[उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री टी०एन० चतुर्वेदी) पीठासीन हुए]

आपने मूड टू क्लोज डाउन का जिक्र किया था। इसके इशारे कई तकरीरों में आए हैं। वायलर रवि साहब ने भी फरमाया था— It appears to be a very dangerous beginning of closing down PSUs all round. मैं ने तो अपने भाषण में कहा है कि जहां हम 9 या 10 या 8, अलग फिगर हैं, बेसिकली दस हैं कुल टोटल मिलाकर, जहां हम उसके बंद करने के रास्ते पर जा रहे हैं। It is ten. Ten is the right number.

SHRI JIBON ROY: Would you please assure that it will end here?

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: आप बेचैन मत हो जाइए, मेहरबानी करके तशरीफ रखिए। मुझे माफ कीजिए थोड़ी देर के लिए क्योंकि मैं फेफड़ों का मुकाबला नहीं कर सकता। मैं आपको यह बता रहा हूं, उसके साथ साथ जहां हमने जिक्र किया है कुछ कंपनी को बंद करने का, वहीं हमने 9 सिक इंडस्ट्रीज को रिवाइव करने का भी फैसला किया है। कोशिश करना है कि यह रिवाइव की जा सकती हैं या नहीं। आपके जेहन में वह नहीं आया। अगर बंद करने का इरादा हो तो उसको बंद कर करा देते हैं। इसका जिक्र किया आपने नहीं किया। ... (**व्यवधान**) ....

श्री दीपांकर मुखर्जी: वह भी बंद हो जाएंगी।

†[] Transliteration in Arabic Script.

श्री सिकन्दर बख्तः अगर आपने यह फैसला कर लिया है तो आप मुझसे सवाल क्यों कर रहे हैं? यह कालिंग अटेंशन किस लिए हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)** ...

श्री दीपांकर मुखर्जीः आप साफ साफ बोलिए कि आपके पास इंफोरमेशन है बंद करने की। ... **(व्यवधान)** ...

श्री सिकन्दर बख्तः मैं तो वह बात नहीं बोलूंगा, जो आप बोल रहे है। ... **(व्यवधान)** ...

SHRI DIAPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Sir, banks have not given money for the last one-and-a-half years to nine units out of ten units. Have you given the money? *Are they going to be stopped again?*

श्री सिकन्दर बख्तः सदर साहब, मेरी मुश्किल यह है। ... **(व्यवधान)** ...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री टी॰एन॰ चतुर्वेदी): प्लीज़ आप मिनिस्टर साहब को बोलने दीजिए।

श्री सिकन्दर बख्तः दीप की अगर ख्वाइश यह है कि मैं वह बोलने लगूं जो वह अपनी रोशनी के साथ अपने दीप का अंधेरा फैला रहे हैं मैं भी उस अंधेरे में शामिल हो जाऊं तो वह मेरे वश की बात नहीं है। मैं यह कहने जा रहा हूं अब दूसरी बात, कि यह जो आपने बंद करने की बात कही है, उसके रास्ते उठ सकते हैं। बदकिस्मती से कुछ लोगों ने कहा, आपने तो नहीं कहा था, वह मैं अफसोसनाक मानता हूं कि हम लोगों के यहां 1947 से पहले का एक फैशन रहा है कि हमने नौकरशाही को बहुत-बुरा भला कहा है। मेरे अजीज दोस्त आर॰ के॰ कुमार साहब ने भी एक्सपर्ट का जिक्र किया है। वह एक लफ्ज है, जो हम बेतकान ऑफ द कफ इस्तेमाल करते हैं। एक्सपर्ट किसको कहते हैं। यहां कौन आए? मैं यह मानता हूं कि यकतरफा अफसरान के बारे में बात करना बहुत अच्छा नहीं है। ... **(व्यवधान)** ...

श्रीमती सरोज दुबेः मंत्री के बारे में है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सिकन्दर बख्तः जी हां, मंत्री के बारे में शोक से कहिए। क्या आवाज आई है, क्या मौसिकी है। सुभान अल्लाह। तो मैं यह कह रहा हूं कि अफसरान के ऊपर एक बिल्कुल ऐसी बात कर देना बहुत ठीक नहीं है। हिन्दुस्तानी हैं, हिन्दुस्तान से मोहब्बत करते हैं, वर्षों से इस सब्जेक्ट को डील कर रहे हैं। लिहाजा मैं मानता हूं कि अफसरों से बढ़कर और एक्सपर्ट हम कहां से ला सकते हैं आसान नहीं है। इनसे काम लेना है हमने। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI R.K. KUMAR (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I was only saying that a body of Chartered Accounts, not only the I.A.S Officers.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: Mr. Kumar, many other Members have said. I am not mentioning about you.

मैं तो कहीं कहीं से टुकड़े ले रहा हूं। आपने एडवाइस किया है कि गो स्लो। मैं आपको यह बता दूं हालांकि मैं इसको कसूर बताकर नहीं कह रहा हूं। सदर साहब। मैं अर्ज कर रहा हूं गुरूदास दासगुप्त साहब से, कसूर बताकर नहीं कर रहा हूं, इसमें मुझे हैरत है कि क्या गवर्नेन्स से काम करना भी गुनाहगारी हो गई है। जितनी अंडरटेकिंग का यहां जिक्र हुआ है, मेरा मुकसद कांग्रेस पर आरोप लागाना नहीं है क्योंकि मैं उस रास्ते को दुरुस्त मानता हूं।

लेकिन इत्तेफाक से इन तमाम अंडरटेकिंग्स में, जिनमें फाइनली हमने आज बात की है, इन सबके बारे में फैसला बहुत पहले हो चुका था। मैं एक-एक इंडस्ट्री के बारे में बता सकता हूं कि उसके बारे में फैसला कौन सी तारीख को हुआ है। 1993 से लेकर 1997 तक इनको वाइंड-अप करने का फैसला हुकूमत कर चुकी थी, अमल नहीं हो रहा था। मैं कांग्रेस पार्टी या किसी और पार्टी का नाम नहीं ले रहा हूं मैं खाली यह कह रहा हूं कि मै एक-एक कम्पनी के बारे में तारीख दे सकता हूं कि कब फैसला हुआ है, लेकिन मैं उसको गलत नहीं मानता हूं। यह समझना कि वह गलत है, मैं ऐसा नहीं मानता हूं, मैं उसको ठीक मानता हूं क्योंकि बीमार कम्पनियों के अंदर मजदूरों को लगाए रखने का मतलब है मजदूरों के मुस्तकबिल को तबाह कर देना। जिस किस्म की बी॰आर॰एस॰ की अंडरस्टेंडिंग मिल रही है, वे उस रुपए से, उस पैसे से नई ज़िन्दगी की इब्तिदा कर सकते है। यह प्रश्न करना ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI JIBON ROY: Don't do injustice to us. ...*(Interruptions)*... Dont't do injustice to us.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): Mr. Jibon Roy, do you want to seek clarification or not? Please take your seat. Please don't interrupt the Minister.

SHRI JIBON ROY: We would like to know whether the Government wants to revive the sick public sector undertakings.

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: सदर साहब, अगर आप मुझे इजाज़त दें तो मैं अपने दोस्त से दरख्वास्त कर दूं कि मैं तुम्हारी बेचैनी और बेताबी का मक़सद जानता हूं और तुम यह समझ लो कि तुम्हारी ख्वाहिशात से कुछ मुख्तलिफ नहीं हैं मेरी ख्वाहिशात क्योंकि वाइंड-अप करने के रास्ते पर कदम तब उठता है जब रिवाइव करने की हज़ारों कोशिशें नाकाम हो चुकी होती हैं, उससे पहले नहीं उठता है। हम मज़दूर को सड़क पर नहीं लाना चाहते, हम मज़दूर को बुनियाद मानते हैं हिन्दुस्तान की इकॉनमी की और किसी भी शख्स को बेकार खड़ा करके सड़क पर नहीं लाना चाहते। मैं तुम्हारी तकलीफों को जानता हूं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री टी॰ एन॰ चतुर्वेदी): आप सवाल बाद में कर लीजिएगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: मैं इतनी ही बात कर रहा हूं ...**(व्यवधान)**... आपकी बात का जवाब देने की हिम्मत मेरे अंदर नहीं है, मैं सिर्फ जीवन से बात कर रहा था कि मैं और तुम मिलकर मज़दूर के भले की बात कर रहे है। तुम मज़दूर के भले की बात उसको डूबती हुई किश्ती में बिठाकर करना चाहते हो, मैं मज़दूर को डूबती हुई किश्ती से निकालकर एक नई, ताज़ा, मज़बूत किश्ती में खड़ा करना चाहता हूं फर्क इतना है खाली। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

गो स्लो के बारे में मैं कहना चाहता हूं, आपने गो स्लो की बात कही थी, मैंने आपको बताया कि 1993 का फैसला, 1998 तक बगैर अमल के बाकी था। गो स्लो की क्या हद मुकर्रर करेंगे। आप? 1993 का फैसला, 1994 का फैसला, चार-पांच साल फैसला होने के बाद लग गए, लेकिन हर शख्स अपनी जगह है!

सदर साहब, मैं एक इम्पोर्टेंट बात की तरफ भी आपकी तवज्जो दिला दूं। 1978 में जब यहां जनता पार्टी की गवर्नमेंट थी, बंगाल में हुकूमत चलाने वाले बुजुर्ग हमारे एक साथी थे। रिहेब्लिटेशन मिनिस्ट्री में उस वक्त आर॰आई॰सी॰ का किस्सा था और रिहेब्लिटेशन इंडस्ट्रियल कारपोरेशन को जिंदा रखने की कोशिश में एक मोटी रकम हर साल बजट में रखी जाती थी। मैंने बंगाल के चीफ मिनिस्टर साहब को दरख्वास्त की कि मैं यह आपके सुपुर्द कर रहा हूं। उन्होंने कहा कि ऐसा मत करिए। मैंने कहा कि मैं ऐसेट्स को राइट-आफ करके आपके सुपुर्द करना चाहता हूं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... पहले बात सुन लीजिए, बीच में सवाल मत कीजिए। उन्होंने जब उसको भी मना कर दिया तो मैंने कहा कि मैं वर्कर्स को देना चाहता हूं और ऐसेट्स राइट-आफ कर दूंगा, जो करना चाहते हैं उसके साथ करें। उन्होंने कहा कि वह भी लेने को तैयार नहीं हैं और दो साल के लिए मैं चाहता हूं कि तुम बैठे रहो। मैंने कहा कि एक कुलीग की बात है, मैंने मान लिया। वह आर॰आई॰सी॰ आज भी चल रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

†افسوسناک بات یہ ہے کہ یہ سوال بھی کرتے ہیں اور جواب بھی خود ہی دینے کی کوشش کرتے ہیں ...''مداخلت''... میں نے منہ پھیر لیا ہے، ایک وقت پر دس آدمی سوال نہیں اٹھائیں گے۔ میں جواب نہیں دوں گا۔ آئی ایم سارری، مجھے معاف کیجیے۔ آپ نے ایک سوال اٹھایا کہ فگر اتھنٹک کیجیے۔ میں یہاں بیان جو دے رہا ہوں، وہ ریکارڈ کا حصہ بن گیا ہے اور وہ اتھنٹک الف ہے۔ یہ صرف کہنے کی خاطر بات نہ کہیں۔ میں گرودا س دراس گپتا جی کی بات کہنا چاہتا ہوں۔ آپنے ایم۔اے۔ایم۔سی۔ کا ذکر کیا تھا اور سفارش کی تھی کہ اس کو ریوائیو کیا جائے۔ آپنے مجھے ایڈوائز کیا تھا۔ آپکو شاید معلوم نہیں ہے کہ چار دفعہ اسکے ریوائیول کی، اسکی ری اسٹرکچرنگ کی کوشش ہو چکی ہے اور اس دفعہ جو قدم اٹھایا گیا ہے وہ چار دفعہ کی ناکام ری اسٹرکچرنگ کے بعد اٹھایا گیا ہے۔ ہاں، میں نے کہا تھا کہ یہ

†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script.

Government has not business to be in business.

†[اب یہ جملہ تو بہت اخباروں میں آچکا ہے۔]

I stick to that in spite of the fact that today I am the Industry Minister. Today, I am a Minister in the Ministry of Industry.

†[نا تینگی اٹھایا ہے کیونکہ میں یہ مانتا ہوں کہ گورنمنٹ کا کام لوگوں کو عام زندگی کی سہولتیں پہنچانا ہے۔ تعلیم حاصل پوری ہونی چاہیئے، جو نہیں ہے۔ صحت کا بندوبست ہونا چاہیئے، نہیں ہے۔ یہ کام ہیں گورنمنٹ کے بنیادی طور پر کرنا اگر گورنمنٹ دکانداری میں لگ جائیگی تو اس کو فرصت کہاں ملیگی یہ بنیادی ذمہ داری پوری کرنے کی۔ اس نے کہا تھا، لیکن کانٹیکٹ اسکا کیا تھا، اسکا ذکر آپ کہیں نہیں کر سکتے۔ چھوڑ دیجئے مگر:]

I am sticking to that statement. I am not backing out.

†[آپ سبھاادھیکش (شری ٹی این جیروی) بیٹھا میں ہوئے" آپنے موڈرن کالج ڈاؤن کا ذکر کیا تھا۔ اس کے اشارے کئی تقریروں میں آئے ہیں۔ ویالار روی صاحب نے بھی فرمایا تھا:]

†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script.

It appears to be a very dangerous beginning of closing down PSUs all round.

†[میں نے تو اپنے بھاشن میں کہا ہے کہ جہاں ہم ۹ یا ۱۰ یا ۸ الگ الگ ہیں، بیسیکلی دس ہیں کل ٹوٹل ملا کر، جہاں ہم اس کے بند کرنے کے راستے پر جا رہے ہیں:]

It is ten. Ten is the right number.

SHRI JIBON ROY: Would you please assure that it will end here?

†[شری سکندر بخت: آپ بے چین مت ہو جایئے، مہربانی کر کے تشریف لے جایئے، مجھے معاف کیجیئے تھوڑی دیر کے لئے کیونکہ میں پھیپڑوں کا مقابلہ نہیں کر سکتا۔ میں آپکو یہ بتا رہا ہوں کہ، اسکے ساتھ ساتھ جہاں آپ ہم نے ذکر کیا ہے کچھ کمپنیوں کے بند کرنے کا، وہیں ہم نے نو (۹) انڈسٹریز کو ریویلائیو کرنے کا بھی فیصلہ کیا ہے۔ کوشش کرنا ہے کہ وہ ریویلائیو کی جا سکتی ہیں یا نہیں۔ آپ کے ذہن میں وہ نہیں آیا اگر بند کرنے کا ارادہ ہوتو اسکو بند کرا دیتے ہیں اسکا ذکر کیا آپنے نہیں کیا۔۔۔ "مداخلت"۔۔۔

شری دیپانکر مکھرجی: وہ بھی ہو جائیگی۔

وہ میں افسوس سے مانتا ہوں کہ ہم لوگوں کے یہاں ۱۹۴۷ سے پہلے کا ایک فیشن رہا ہے کہ ہم نے کوئر شاہی کو بہت برا بھلا کہا ہے میرے عزیز دوست آر کے کمار صاحب نے بھی ایکسپرٹ کا ذکر کیا ہے وہ ایک لفظ ہے جو ہم بے تکان "آف دی کف" استعمال کرتے ہیں ایکسپورٹ کس کو کہتے ہیں؟ یہاں کون ہے؟ میں یہ مانتا ہوں کہ ایک طرف افسران کے بارے میں بات کرنا بہت اچھا نہیں ہے..."مداخلت"...

شری متی سروج دوبے: منتری کے بارے میں ہے....

†شری سکندر بخت: جی ہاں منتری کے بارے شوق سے کہئے۔ کیا آواز آئی ہے کیا موسیقی ہے، سبحان اللہ۔ تو میں یہ کہہ رہا ہوں کہ افسران کے اوپر ایک بالکل ایسی بات کر دینا بہت ٹھیک نہیں ہے ہندوستانی ہیں ہندوستان سے محبت کرتے ہیں سالوں سے اس سسٹم کو ڈیل کر رہے ہیں۔ لحاظ میں مانتا ہوں کہ افسران سے بڑھکر اور ایکسپورٹ ہم کہاں سے لا سکتے ہیں، آسان نہیں ہے ان سے کام لینا ہے ہم نے.....†

SHRI R.K. KUMAR: Sir, I was only saying that a body of Chartered Accounts, not only the I.A.S Officers.

شری سکندر بخت: اگر آپ نے یہ فیصلہ کر لیا ہے تو آپ مجھ سے کیوں کر رہے ہیں یہ کالنگ اٹینشن کس لئے ہے...."مداخلت"...

شری دیپانکر مکھرجی: آپ صاف صاف بولئے کہ آپ کے پاس انفارمیشن ہے بند کرنے کی..."مداخلت"...

شری سکندر بخت: میں تو وہ بات نہیں بولوں گا جو آپ بول رہے ہیں..."مداخلت"

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHARJEE: Sir, banks have not given money for the last one-and-a-half years to nine units out of ten units. Have you given the money? Are they going to be stopped again?

†شری سکندر بخت: صدر صاحب میری مشکل یہ ہے..."مداخلت"...

آپ سبھاادھیکش "شری ئی۔ این چترویدی": پلیز منسٹر صاحب کو بولنے دیجئے۔

شری سکندر بخت: دیپ کی خواہش یہ ہے کہ میں وہ بولنے لگوں کہ وہ اپنی روشنی کے ساتھ اپنے دیپ کا اندھیرا پھیلا رہے ہیں۔ اور میں بھی اس اندھیرے میں شامل ہو جاؤں وہ میرے بس کی بات نہیں ہے، میں یہ کہنے جا رہا ہوں اور دوسری بات کہ یہ جو آپنے بند کرنے کی بات کہی ہے اس کے راستے اٹھ سکتے ہیں، بدقسمتی سے کچھ لوگوں نے کہا آپ نے تو نہیں کہا تھا

†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: Mr. Kumar many other Members have said. I am not mentioning about you.

میں تو یہیں یہیں سے ٹوک رہے رہا ہوں آپنے ایڈوائز کیا ہے کہ گو سلو۔ میں آپکو یہ بتادوں حالانکہ میں اس کو قصور بتا کر نہیں کہہ رہا ہوں۔ صدر صاحب میں عرض کر رہا ہوں مگر وہ اس واس گپتا صاحب سے، قصور بتا کر نہیں کر رہا ہوں، اس میں مجھے حیرت ہے کہ گورنمنٹ سے کام کرنا بھی گناہ گاری ہے۔ جتنی انڈر ٹیکنگ کا یہاں ذکر ہوا ہے میرا مقصد کانگریس پر آروپ لگانا نہیں ہے کیونکہ میں اس رستے کو درست نہیں مانتا ہوں۔ لیکن اتفاق سے ان تمام انڈر ٹیکنگس میں، جن میں خانگی ہم نے آج بات کی ہے، ان سب کے بارے میں فیصلہ بہت پہلے ہو چکا تھا۔ میں ایک ایک انڈسٹری کے بارے میں بتا سکتا ہوں کہ اسکے بارے میں فیصلہ کون سی تاریخ کو ہوا ہے۔ ۱۹۹۳ء سے لیکر ۱۹۹۷ء تک ان کو وائنڈ اپ کرنے کا فیصلہ حکومت کر چکی تھی، عمل نہیں ہو رہا تھا۔ میں ایک ایک کمپنی کے بارے میں تاریخ دے سکتا ہوں کہ کب فیصلہ ہوا ہے، لیکن میں اسکو غلط نہیں مانتا ہوں۔ یہ سمجھنا کہ وہ غلط ہے، میں ایسا نہیں مانتا ہوں، میں اسکو ٹھیک مانتا ہوں کیونکہ بیمار کمپنیوں کے اندر مزدوروں کو لگائے رکھنے کا مطلب ہے مزدوروں کے مستقبل کو تباہ کر دینا۔ جس قسم کی وی۔ آر۔ ایس کی انڈسٹر اسٹینڈنگ مل رہی ہے وہ اس روپے سے، پیسے سے نئی زندگی کی ابتدا کر سکتے ہیں۔ یہ پریشن کھونا ... "مداخلت" ...

SHRI JIBON ROY: Don't do injustice to us ... *(Interruptions)*... Don't do injustice to us.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): Mr. Jibon Roy, do you want to seek clarifications or not? Please take your seat. Please don't interrupt the Minister.

SHRI JIBON ROY: We would like to know whether the Government wants to revive the sick public sector undertakings.

†[ ] شری سکندر بخت: صدر صاحب اگر آپ مجھے اجازت دیں تو میں اپنے دوست سے درخواست کروں کیونکہ میں تمہاری بے چینی اور بے تابی کا مقصد جانتا ہوں اور تم یہ سمجھو کہ تمہاری خواہشات سے کچھ مختلف نہیں ہیں میری خواہشات کیونکہ وائنڈ اپ کرنے کے راستے پر قدم تب اٹھتا ہے جب ریوائیو کرنے کی ہزاروں

†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script

کوششیں ناکام ہو چکی ہوتی ہیں۔ اس سے پہلے نہیں اٹھتا ہے۔ ہم مزدور کو سڑک پر نہیں لانا چاہتا، ہم مزدور کو بنیاد مانتے ہیں ہندوستان کی اکانامی کی اور کسی بھی شخص کو بے کار کھڑا کر کے سڑک پر نہیں لانا چاہتے میں تمہاری تکلیف کو جانتا ہوں ..."مداخلت"...

اب سنبھاد ھیلش "شری ٹی۔ این چترویدی"!

آپ سوال بعد میں کر لیجئے گا....

شری سکندر بخت: میں اتنی ہی بات کہہ رہا ہوں..."مداخلت"...آپ کی بات کا جواب دینے کی میرے اندر ہمت نہیں ہے میں صرف جیوں سے بات کر رہا تھا کہ میں اور تم مالک مزدور کے بھلے کی بات کر رہے ہیں۔ تم مزدور کی بھلے کی بات اسکو موجودہ ہوئی کشتی میں کرنا چاہتے ہو۔ میں مزدور کو ڈوبتی ہوئی کشتی سے نکال کر ایک نئی تانہ مضبوط کشتی میں بٹھا کر کرنا چاہتا ہوں فرق اتنا ہی ہے خالی...."مداخلت"..

گوسلو کے بارے میں کہنا چاہتا ہوں،

آپ نے گوسلو کی بات کہی تھی، میں نے آپکو بتایا کہ ۱۹۹۳ء کا فیصلہ ۱۹۹۸ء تک لیبر عمل کے باقی تھا۔ گوسلو کی کیا حد مقرر کریں گے آپ؟ ۱۹۹۳ء کا فیصلہ ۱۹۹۷ء کا فیصلہ، چار پانچ سال فیصلہ ہونے کے بعد لگتے لیکن ہر شخص اپنی جگہ صدر صاحب میں ایک امپورٹنٹ بات کی طرف بھی آپکی توجہ دلا دوں۔ ۱۹۷۷ء میں جب یہاں جنتا پارٹی کی حکومت تھی بنگال میں حکومت چلانے والے بزرگ ہمارے ایک ساتھی تھی۔ ری پیپل شیشن منسٹری میں اس وقت آر آئی سبھا کا قصہ تھا اور ری پیپل شیشن انڈسٹریل کارپوریشن کو فنڈ دینے کی کوشش میں ایک معمولی رقم ہر سال بجٹ میں رکھی جاتی تھی۔ میں نے بنگال کے چیف منسٹر صاحب سے درخواست کی کہ میں یہ آپکو سپرد کر رہا ہوں انھوں نے کہا ایسا مت کہئے میں نے کہا کہ میں ایسٹیٹس کو رائٹ آف کر کے آپکے سپرد کرنا چاہتا ہوں ..."مداخلت"..پہلے بات سن لیجئے بیچ میں سوال نہیں کیجئے، انھوں نے جب اسکو بھی مان کر منع کر دیا تو میں نے کہا کہ میں ورکرس کو دینا چاہتا ہوں اور ایسٹیٹس رائٹ آف کر دو تاکہ جو کرنا چاہتے ہیں اسکے ساتھ کریں۔ انھوں نے کہا کہ وہ بھی لینے کو تیار نہیں ہیں اور دو سال کے لئے میں چاہتا ہوں کہ تم بیٹھے رہو میں نے کہا کہ ایک کلیگ کی بات ہے میں نے مان لیا۔ او آر آئی سبھا آج بھی چل رہی ہے۔

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (West Bengal): Mr. Minister, if you yield, I will speak. If not, I will sit down. There is one small point. The point is you keep this and say money has reached the worker. Is it not possible for the workers to run the industry? It is too romantic to idealise. This is not the kind of a situation which has been created.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: Your question is too long. ...(*Interruptions*)... Your question is too long.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: The whole programme will ...(*Interruptions*)... The management should govern the management. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): You have expressed your view point. Mr. Minister, please continue.

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: सदर साहब, मैं सिर्फ गुरुदास दासगुप्त जी की गो स्लो की ऐडवाइस की बात कर रहा हूं कि आर०आई०सी० उसी सिलसिले में, उसी हालत में आज भी 20 साल के बाद भी चल रही है।

†[श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: सदर साहब, मैं सिर्फ गुरुदास दासगुप्त जी की गो स्लो की ऐडवाइस की बात कर रहा हूं कि आर०आई०सी० उसी सिलसिले में, उसी हालत में आज भी 20 साल के बाद भी चल रही है।]

स्लो कितना चाहते हैं आप, मालूम होना चाहिए को2

†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script

†[गो स्लो कितना चाहते हैं आप - मालूम होना चाहिए।]

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Are the workers responsible for that?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): Mr. Mukherjee, I think the mike is very strong.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: You want to hand over sick undertakings to the workers. I want to ask, why don't you hand over the country to the workers? मगर हमारे क्वेश्चन का एक भी जवाब नहीं दिया। ...(व्यवधान)

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: आ रहा हूं आपके क्वेश्चन पर।...(व्यवधान)

†[श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: आ रहा हूं आपके सवाल पर..."मदाखलत"...]

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): Mr. Mukherjee, please. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: This is my question. You will hand over only good companies to multinationals and sick undertakings to workers!

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): Mr. Mukherjee, your mike is quite powerful. I will take care of your feelings.

SHRI JIBON ROY: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir,....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): Please, now let him finish.

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: सदर साहब, मैं कोशिश कर रहा हूं हर वर्कर के जिक्र का जिक्र करने की...(व्यवधान)...

†[श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: सदर साहब - मैं कोशिश कर रहा हूं हर वर्कर के जिक्र का जिक्र करने की...]

SHRI JOBON ROY: Sir, our humble submission is, we want to know from the Government what the direction of the Government is. Is it towards revival or is it towards liquidation? If you are ready to see what can be done for the revival, we are ready to sacrifice. (*Interruptions*).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): Mr. Jibon Roy, please take your seat.

SHRI JIBON ROY: We want to know the direction.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): The direction will be clear...(*Interruptions*). The direction will be clear only if you listen to my direction. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI JIBON ROY: We want to know the dierction of the Government.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): He is the Government representative. Please let him speak. Please do not interrupt him.

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: सदर साहब। दीपांकर जी ने दो-तीन बातें कही हैं।

†[उर्दू: सदर साहब! मैंने दो तीन बातें कही हैं।]

श्री दीपांकर मुखर्जी: दो-तीन नहीं, 12 बातें हैं मेरी।

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: काफी बातें तो ऐसी थी कि वह काबिले तवोज्जह नहीं थी उनको मैंने छोड़ दिया। लेकिन इन्होंने बताया कि...(**व्यवधान**)

†[उर्दू: काफी बातें तो ऐसी थीं कि वह काबिले तवज्जह नहीं थीं उनको मैंने छोड़ दिया। लेकिन इन्होंने बताया कि...(व्यवधान)]

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम: कुछ बातें इरिलीवेंट थीं।

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: सुनो गौतम।

†[उर्दू: सुनो गौतम।]

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री टी०एन० चतुर्वेदी): उन 12 को तीन में ही शामिल कर लिया। आप सुन तो लीजिए। सुनिए तो आप।...(**व्यवधान**) इसलिए सब बातें शामिल करली हैं।

श्री दीपांकर मुखर्जी: सरकार से लड़ रहा हूं, चाहे इधर हो चाहे उधर हो।...(**व्यवधान**)

Every paper from his Ministry, I am having here. I do not talk in the air. हमारे क्वेश्चन का जवाब आना चाहिए। Here is the report. ...(*Interruptions*). BIFR criticises the Government. For six years, the cases are delayed because of Government... (*Interruptions*)...

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: सदर साहब, मैं यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि कही हुई बहुत सारी बातें वह गुरुदास दासगुप्त साहब की तकरीर में शामिल थीं इसलिए मैंने उनको दोबारा से नोट नहीं किया है। उन्होंने खास तौर से कहा है कि क्या बी०आई०एफ०आर० ही एक इंस्टीट्यूशन है जो किसी भी इंस्टीट्यूशन को बंद करने का फैसला करती है? मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि बी०आई०एफ०आर० ही एक इम्पोर्टेंट हिस्सा है लेकिन तीन-चार मंजिलों से गुजरने के बाद तब फैसला होता है। तीन-चार मंजिलों से और तीन-चार इंस्टीट्यूशन से निकलने के बाद जिसमें हाई कोर्ट तक शामिल है तब फैसला होता है बाईड-अप करने का।...(**व्यवधान**)...

†[उर्दू: सदर साहब! मैं यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि कही हुई बहुत सारी बातें वह गुरुदास दासगुप्त साहब की तकरीर में शामिल थीं इसलिए मैंने उनको दोबारा से नोट नहीं किया है। उन्होंने खास तौर से कहा है कि क्या बी०आई०एफ०आर० ही एक इंस्टीट्यूशन है जो किसी भी इंस्टीट्यूशन को बंद करने का फैसला करती है? मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि बी०आई०एफ०आर० ही एक इम्पोर्टेंट हिस्सा है लेकिन तीन-चार मंजिलों से गुजरने के बाद तब फैसला होता है। तीन-चार मंजिलों से और तीन-चार इंस्टीट्यूशन से निकलने के बाद जिसमें हाई कोर्ट तक शामिल है तब फैसला होता है बाईड-अप करने का।...(व्यवधान)...]

†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script.

†[بند کرنے کا فیصلہ کرتی ہے۔ میں یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ پی۔آئی۔ایف اگر ہی ایک امپورٹنٹ حصہ ہے لیکن تین چار منزلوں سے گرنے کے بعد تب فیصلہ ہوتا ہے۔ تین چار منزلوں سے اور تین چار انسوشن سے نکلنے کے بعد جسمیں ہائی کورٹ تک شامل ہے۔ تب فیصلہ ہوتا ہے وائرڈ اپ کرنے کا]†

फिर मुझे यह अर्ज करना पड़ेगा कि यह दर्द मैं उसको दोहराना नहीं चाहता हूं। वह वेस्टेड इंटरेस्ट की बात तो आपने कही थी।...(**व्यवधान**)...

†[पर मुझे यह अर्ज करना पड़ेगा कि यह दर्द मैं उसको दोहराना नहीं चाहता हूं। वह वेस्टेड इंटरेस्ट की बात तो आपने कही थी।...(व्यवधान)...]†

All right. Then I do not have anything to say. I wish them all good luck. (*Interruptions*).

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Sir,...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): Dr. Biplab, what is the point in saying that...(*Interruptions*).

श्री दीपांकर मुखर्जी: आपको चलाना है — हां कि नहीं। अगर नहीं तो क्या बात कर रहे हैं 6 साल से।...(**व्यवधान**) आपको चलाना है या नहीं। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): You have made your points. Let the Minister reply now. You have had the occasion. (*Interruptions*). No. This is your perception. The Minister is responding to what you have said. (*Interruptions*). It may be your perception. Your perception cannot be attributed to the Minister.

†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: मैं यह अर्ज कर रहा हूं कि...(**व्यवधान**)...

†[शरी सिकन्दर बख्त: میں یہ عرض کر رہا ہوں ...]†

श्री दीपांकर मुखर्जी: चलाना है या नहीं, हम तो यही जानना चाहते हैं?

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: I am not yielding. I am not yielding at all.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: What I am saying is, if you can help, help them. ...(*Interruptions*).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): He is not yielding.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Please be specific. (*Interruptions*).

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: उसके बाद हमारे आज वह अजीज दोस्त बोले थे, मगर तशरीफ नहीं रखते। मैं क्या कहूं। वायालार रवि साहब भी बोले थे।...(**व्यवधान**)

†[शरी सिकन्दर बख्त: اسکے بعد ہمارے آج وہ عزیز دوست بولے تھے۔ مگر تشریف نہیں رکھتے میں کیا کہوں۔ وائلار روی صاحب بھی بولے تھے ..."مداخلت"...]†

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): Dr. Biplab, he is now referring to Mr. Vayalar Ravi, not to you.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: He should be specific. Otherwise... (*Interruptions*). You do not want to face the House. It is very clear from the attitude of the Government. I am not blaming you personally. This is the Government which is anti-worker and anti-people. Tomorrow, the people of the country will respond to your conduct. (*Interruptions*) Since we did not get a satisfactory reply to our questions, we walk out in protest. (*Interruptions*)

[At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber]

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: बहुत पहले कर देना चाहिए, बड़ी देर की मेहरबान जाते-जाते।

†شری سکندر بخت: بہت پہلے کر دینا چاہیئے۔ بڑی دیر کی مہربان جاتے جاتے۔

SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, they will not listen to what others say.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): Mr. Gurudas Das Gupta, your name is there for clarification. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Sir, I would like to put one question.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): But the Minister is not yielding.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: I would request him to kindly yield for a moment.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): All right.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Sir, I would like to put one question to the Minister. Is he in a position to reconsider the question of revival of these units, as far as possible? We have never said that there is no question of reviving the absolutely impossible public sector units. Terminally sick units need not be revived. But will he kindly take into consideration our suggestion to review the whole decision because there is a suggestion from a substantial section of the House? Will he kindly consider it?

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: Sir, I agree with one part of his statement — 'as far as possible' and I would like to inform the hon. Member that we have crossed all the limits of 'as far as possible' consideration.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman. We believe, this Government is throwing to the winds all the normal, possible, scruples, so far as the revival of the public sector units is concerned. We walk out in protest.

[At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber]

SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL: Sir, when they were speaking, they were giving all sorts of arguments and we were listening to them without any interruptions. Now, when the reply comes, they have left the House.

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: मुझे बहुत अफसोस यह है कि बात कहने की ताकत तो हरएक में होती है, बात सुनकर उसे बर्दाश्त करने की ताकत हरएक के बस की बात नहीं है। सच से हरेक घबराता है, सच का चेहरा जब सामने आता है तो आंखें मिचने लगती हैं। मुझे बहुत तकलीफ है कि इस वक्त ये लोग वाक-आउट करके चले गए। क्यों सुनना नहीं चाहते? बात कही है तो सुननी भी चाहिए। दुरैसामी जो भी तशरीफ ले गए क्या जिक्र करूं? वेद प्रकाश गोयल साहब ने जो कुछ कहा है, उनकी बातें तो बहुत ज्यादा काबिले-तवज्जो रही हैं, लेकिन क्या जिक्र करूं उसका। सुन्दरम साहब भी तशरीफ ले गए, शायद नहीं। आजमी साहब ने जो कुछ कहा, वह भी तशरीफ नहीं रखते, क्या करूं। गरीबों की सरदारी खत्म की जा रही है यह बात जो कहते हैं, सदर साहब, मुझे इतनी हैरत होती है और इतनी तकलीफ होती है कि वह समझते ही नहीं कि सिक इंडस्ट्री में किसी गरीब को जोड़े रखने का मायने क्या है? उसको समझने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं, बल्कि आंखें बन्द कर रखी हैं। अब क्या बताऊं मौलाना तो तशरीफ रखते नहीं हैं। कारखानों की बीमारी की जिम्मेदारी न मजदूरों पर डाली गई है, न किसी अफसर पर डाली गई है। पूरी कोशिश के बाद भी कोई तरीका उसका रिवाइवल होता है या नहीं, बगैर रिवाइवल की कोशिश के तो हमने किसी कम्पनी को खत्म करने का मौका नहीं दिया है। यह हमारा किस्सा नहीं है। यह जितने भी किस्से सामने हैं इनके पांच-पांच, सात-सात वर्ष पहले फैसले हो चुके हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): I think, Mr. Minister, you have practically covered all the points.

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: रेड्डी साहब ने फरमाया था, वह तो तशरीफ रखते हैं, बहुत-बहुत शुक्रिया। रेड्डी

† [ ] Transliteration Arabic Script.

साहब ने कहा कि He is unhappy with the decision of the Government. I would like to assure him कि जिन लोगों को वीआरएस दिया जा रहा है, जिनका वाइंड अप किए जाने का फैसला हो जाता है, उनको बहुत मीगर रिटर्न मिलते हैं। लेकिन हम वीआरएस भी दे रहे हैं, स्टेट्यूचरी ड्यूज सारे के सारे पे कर रहे हैं इसलिए कि हम जानते हैं कि वर्कर को बेगार में ला कर के सड़क पर खड़ा कर देना गलत है इसलिए आपकी बात का जवाब दे देता हूं। सरोज दुबे साहिबा भी तशरीफ ले गईं। गडकिया साहब ने चार-पांच सवालात मुझसे ऐसे किए हैं। आपके सवालात का मैं जवाब दूंगा तो कोई वाक आउट करने वाला रहा ही नहीं। कृष्ण साहब तशरीफ रखते हैं। मैंने कभी नहीं कहा कि PSUs have no role to play. What I have said is, पीएसयू इतनी बीमार हो चुकी है उसका रिवाइवल नामुमकिन है। हम उसको सिर्फ वाइन्ड अप करने की कोशिश करते हैं। जैसा कि एक मिसाल मैंने बताई और जिसका जिक्र गुरुदास दासगुप्त भी कर रहे थे। एम०ए०एम०सी० को चार मर्तबा रिस्ट्रक्चर किए जाने के बावजूद भी, मैं यह बता भी दूं कि कुछ प्राइवेट सैक्टर अंडरटेकिंग्स ऐसी हैं जिनके साथ कुछ लोगों ने बेईमानी की है। हर कीमत पर यह चाहते हैं कि किसी तरीके से किसी तरह से उनको रिवाईव किया जाए। हालांकि वे ऐसी सूरत में हैं। प्राइवेट सैक्टर अंडरटेकिंग्स का जो भी मालिक है, वह यहां से रुपया लेकर भाग गया। अब उसको कैसे बन्द किया जा सकता है क्योंकि कामयाब है, चलनी चाहिए। हम आंखें बन्द करके नहीं चल रहे हैं। जो चलाई जा सकती हैं उनको जरुर चलाना चाहते हैं। जो नहीं चलाई जा सकती हैं उनको सिर पर ढोने के लिए बिल्कुल तैयार नहीं है। उसकी यह बुनियादी वजह है। कुमार साहब की बात का मैंने जवाब दे दिया है। मैं सिर्फ आपसे बातचीत करना चाहता हूं।

श्री सोलीपेटा रामचन्द्रा रेड्डी: सर, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या आईडीपीएल को जिन्दा रखा जायेगा, क्या उसका रिवाइवल होगा?

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: जो पब्लिक सैक्टर अंडरटेकिंग्स इस लिस्ट में नहीं है तो हम कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि उनको रिवाइव किया जाए। सदर साहब, आखिर में मैं सिर्फ इतना कहना चाहता हूं कि सियासत की मंतिक बिल्कुल एक अलेहदा मंतिक है। लेकिन ईमानदारी से हम लोगों को यह जरुर सोचना चाहिए। दो बेसिक बातें हैं। ये रुपया जो हम घर बैठे हुए ऐसी अंडरटेकिंग्स को देते रहे हैं जिनमें एक भी पैसे का काम नहीं हो रहा है, वह रुपया किसका है? आपका है, हिन्दुस्तान आवाम का है, गवर्नमेंट के पास अमानत है। एक पैसा भी अमानत में खयानत करने का हक किसी को नहीं होना चाहिए।

दूसरी बात यह है कि यकीनन वर्कर्स का ख्याल होना चाहिए। वर्कर्स का मुस्तकबिल किस चीज से ताल्लुक रखता है, एक कमजोर अनस्टेबल गैर मुस्तहकम बिल क्या वर्कर्स की जिंदगी की गारन्टी है? वर्कर्स की जिंदगी की गारंटी यह है कि उसको एक नया मुस्तक बिल दिया जाए, जो मजदूर अपने पैरों पर खड़ा हो कर काम करे। वह खुद भी खाए और अपने बीवी बच्चों को भी पाले। मुझे बड़ा ताज्जुब हो रहा है, जिस चीज को मैं रोशनी मानता हूं हमारे कुछ सियासी मंतक में उलझे हुए लोग उसको अंधेरा मानते हैं। हम अंधेरे से उन वर्कर्स को रोशनी में लाना चाहते हैं। अगर वे भी होते मैंने बुनियादी बात रखी थी कि मैं तुमसे मदद चाहता हूं, अपने लिए मदद नहीं चाहता, वर्कर्स के लिए, अंडरटेकिंग्स में काम करने वाले वर्कर्स की जिंदगी की खातिर मदद चाहता हूं, उसको उलझाए मत रखो खुदा के वास्ते और इस डूबती हुई कश्ती से निकालो उनको। एक नई कश्ती दो अगर मदद करना चाहते हो तो। यकीनन ये हजरात जो तशरीफ ले गए हैं इस सिलसिले में हमारे मददगार हो सकते हैं मैं और क्या कहूं — बात का मजा खत्म हो गया है। जो लोग जाने वाले थे वे चले गये। मैं सिर्फ यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि हम पब्लिक सैक्टर अंडरटेकिंग्स को राइटआफ नहीं कर रहे हैं और कर भी नहीं सकते। पब्लिक सैक्टर अंडरटेकिंग्स से कमाना जरूर होगा। दो लाख करोड़ से ज्यादा इनमें लगा है। 236 कम्पनियों में से 104 बीमार हैं। किसका पैसा हम वहां जाया कर रहे हैं। बीमार कम्पनियों में ले जाकर? कब तक इस मुल्क के खजाने में हम अमानत में खयानत करते रहेंगे, किसी को ख्याल नहीं है।

4.00 P.M.

वरकर्स को सड़कों पर लाने का सवाल नहीं है। वरकर्स के लिए एक नया मुस्तकबिल एक नई रोशनी पैदा करने का सवाल है। जितने भी वी०आर०एस० के फैसले किए गए हैं, आउट आफ दि वे जाकर फैसले हुए हैं। हम वरकर्स को सड़कों पर लाकर खड़ा नहीं करना चाहते हैं। इसलिए मैं मुल्क से और इस सदन से भी कहना चाहता हूं कि अगर हम इस मुल्क का पैसा लगाते हैं तो हमें उस पैसे का रिटर्न चाहिए। वरकर्स को काम मिलना चाहिए। लेकिन यह प्रोडक्टिव इम्प्लाईमेंट होना चाहिए, यह मेरी गुजारिश है। आपका बहुत-बहुत

शुक्रिया जो आपने मुझे बर्दाश्त किया। लेकिन हम इस रास्ते पर चल पड़े हैं और चलते ही रहेंगे।

†[श्री सलीम उल हक़: मुझे बहुत अफ़सोस है कि बात कहने की ताक़त तो हर एक में होती है, बात सुन कर उसे बर्दाश्त करने की ताक़त हर एक के बस की बात नहीं है। सच से हर एक घबराता है, सच का चेहरा जब सामने आता है तो आँखें मिचने लगती हैं। मुझे बहुत तकलीफ़ है कि इस वक़्त यह वाक आउट कर के चले गये। कुछ भी सुनना नहीं चाहते। बात तो है तो सुननी भी चाहिये। दूसरी सरकार जो भी तशरीफ़ ले आये, क्या हम करोड़ों बेरोज़गारों को यह कह सकते हैं कि लोग आयें और अपनी बातें करें। बहुत ज़्यादा क़ाबिल तवज्जह हैं, लेकिन क्या हम करोड़ों इंसानों से यह कह सकते हैं कि वह भी तशरीफ़ ले आयें, शायद नहीं। आज़म साहब ने जो कुछ कहा, वह भी तशरीफ़ नहीं रखते, क्या करूँ? ग़रीबों की सरदारी ख़त्म की जा रही है, यह बात जो कहते हैं, सदर साहब, मुझे इतनी हैरत होती है और इतनी तकलीफ़ होती है कि वह समझते ही नहीं कि साउथ अफ्रीका में किसी ग़रीब को जूते से मारने के मअनी क्या हैं? इसको समझने के लिये तैयार नहीं हैं, बल्कि आँखें बन्द कर रखी हैं। अब क्या बताऊँ, मौलाना तो तशरीफ़ रखते नहीं हैं? कारख़ानों की बीमारी की ज़िम्मेदारी न मज़दूरों पर डाली गई है, न किसी अफ़सर पर डाली गई है। पूरी कोशिश करने के बाद भी कोई तरीक़ा इस्कारियो आईल हो पाता है या नहीं, बग़ैर रेवाइवल के कोशिश के तो हम ने किसी कम्पनी को ख़त्म करने का फ़ैसला नहीं किया है। यह हमारा मक़सद नहीं है। यह जितने भी क़िस्से सामने हैं उनके पाँच पाँच, सात सात साल पहले फ़ैसले हो चुके हैं।]

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T. N. CHATURVEDI): I think, Mr. Minister, you have practically covered all the points.

†[श्री सलीम उल हक़: रेड्डी साहब ने फ़रमाया था, वह तो तशरीफ़ रखते हैं, बहुत बहुत शुक्रिया। रेड्डी साहब ने कहा कि:]

He is unhappy with the decision of the Government. I would like to assure him.

†[कि हम लोगों को वही आज़ादी दिया जा रहा है। जिनका वाइंडिंग अप के लिए जाने का फ़ैसला हो जाता है, उनको बहुत मेजर प्रीमियम मिलते हैं। लेकिन हम वही आज़ादी भी दे रहे हैं, एस्टेब्लिशड प्रीवेलिंग रेट्स सारे के सारे पे कर रहे हैं इस लिये कि हम जानते हैं कि दो हज़ार को बेरोज़गारी में डालने के सदमे से सिर्फ़ इंकार कर देना ग़लत है इसलिये आपकी बात का जवाब देते देते रह गया। सदमा दूसरे

†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script

صاحبہ بھی تشریف لے گئیں۔ گلاڑیا صاحب نے چار پانچ سوالات مجھ سے کئے ہیں۔ آپکے سوالات کا میں جواب دونگا تو کوئی واک آؤٹ کرنے والا رہا ہی نہیں۔ مگر شنا صاحب تشریف رکھتے ہیں۔ میں نے کبھی نہیں کہا کہ:

PSUs have no role to play. What I have said is,

پی ایس یو اتنی بیمار ہو چکی ہے اسکا ریوائیول ناممکن ہے۔ ہم اسکو صرف وائنڈ اپ کرنے کی کوشش کرتے ہیں۔ جیسا کہ ایک مثال میں نے بتائی اور جیسن گلاڈ کر مگر ودا اس دا اس گپتا جی بھی کر رہے تھے۔ ایم ای این سی کو چار مرتبہ رسٹرکچر کئے جانے کے باوجود بھی ہمیں یہ بتا بھی دوں کہ کچھ پبلک سیکٹر انڈر ٹیکنگ ایسی ہیں انکے ساتھ کچھ لوگوں نے بے ایمانی کی ہے۔ ہر قیمت پر یہ چاہتے ہیں کہ ان کو کسی طریقہ سے کسی طرح سے ان کو ریوائیو کیا جائے۔ حالانکہ ایسی صورت میں ہیں، پبلک سیکٹر انڈر ٹیکنگ کا جو بھی مالک ہے وہ یہاں سے روپیہ لیکر بھاگ گیا اب اسکو کیسے بند کیا جا سکتا ہے کیونکہ کامیاب ہے چلنی چاہئے ہم آنکھیں بند کر کے نہیں چل رہے ہیں جو چلائی جا سکتی ہے انکو ضرور چلانا چاہتے ہیں، جو نہیں چلائی جا سکتی ہیں انکو سر پر ڈھونے کیلئے بالکل تیار نہیں ہیں۔ اس کی یہ بنیادی وجہ ہے۔ گلاڑیا صاحب کی بات کی میں نے جواب دے دیا ہے۔ میں صرف آپ سے بات چیت کرنا چاہتا ہوں۔

شری سوامی پیشاد ام چندر اردی: سر میں یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ کیا آئی ڈی بی ایل کو نہ بند رکھا جائے گا کیا اس کا ریوائیول ہو گا؟

†آخری سکندر بخت: جو پبلک سیکٹر انڈر ٹیکنگ اس لسٹ میں نہیں ہیں تو ہم کوشش کر رہے ہیں کہ انکو ریوائیو کیا جائے۔ صدر صاحب، آخر میں میں صرف ایک بات کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ سیاست کی منطق بالکل ایک علیحدہ منطق ہے لیکن ایمانداری سے ہم کو یہ ضرور سوچنا چاہئے دو بیسک باتیں ہیں یہ روپیہ جو ہم گھر بیٹھے ہوئے ہیں ایسی انڈر ٹیکنگ کو دیتے رہے ہیں جن میں ایک بھی پیسہ کام کا نہیں ہو رہا ہے۔ وہ روپیہ کس کا ہے؟ آپکا ہے ہندوستانی عوام کا ہے گورنمنٹ کے پاس امانت ہے۔ ایک پیسہ بھی امانت میں خیانت کرنے کا حق کسی کو نہیں ہونا چاہئے۔

†[] Transliteration in Arabic Script.

دوسری بات یہ ہے کہ یقیناً ورکرس کا خیال ہونا چاہیئے - ورکرس کا مستقبل کس چیز سے تعلق رکھتا ہے ایک کمزور اور غیر مستحکم بل کیا ورکرز کی زندگی کی گارنٹی ہے؟ ورکرس کی زندگی کی گارنٹی یہ ہے کہ اسکو ایک نیا مستقبل دیا جائے، جو مزدور اپنے پیروں پر کھڑا ہو کر کام کرے وہ خود بھی کھائے اور اپنے بیوی بچوں کو بھی پالے - مجھے بڑا تعجب ہو رہا ہے جس چیز کو میں روشنی مانتا ہوں ہمارے کچھ ساتھی منطق میں الجھے ہوئے ہیں لوگ اسکو اندھیرا مانتے ہیں - ہم اندھیرے میں ورکرس کو اس روشنی میں لانا چاہتے ہیں - اگر وہ بھی ہوتے .... میں نے بنیادی بات رکھی تھی کہ میں تم سے مدد چاہتا ہوں، اپنے لئے مدد نہیں چاہتا، ورکرس کے لئے، انڈر ٹیکنگ میں کام کرنے والے ورکرس کو ڈوبنے کی خاطر مدد چاہتا ہوں - اسکو الجھائے مت رکھو خدارا کے واسطے اور اس ڈوبتی ہوئی کشتی سے نکالو انکو - ایک نئی کشتی دو اگر مدد کرنا چاہتے ہو تو - یقیناً جو حضرات جو تشریف لے گئے ہیں اس سلسلے میں ہمارے مددگار ہو سکتے ہیں - میں اور کیا کہوں .... بات کا مزا ختم ہو گیا ہے - جو لوگ جانے والے تھے وہ چلے گئے میں صرف یہ عرض کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ ہم پبلک سیکٹر انڈر ٹیکنگ کو رائٹ آف نہیں کر سکتے ہیں اور کر بھی نہیں سکتے - پبلک سیکٹر انڈر ٹیکنگ سے کمانا فرض ہو گا - دو کروڑ سے زائد روپیہ ان میں لگا ہے، ۲۳۶ کمپنیوں میں سے ۱۰ بیمار ہیں - کس کا پیسہ ہم کہاں ضائع کر رہے ہیں، بیمار کمپنیوں میں لے جا کر؟ کب تک اس ملک کے خزانے میں امانت میں خیانت کرتے رہیں گے کسی کو خیال نہیں ہے - ورکرس کو سڑکوں پر نہیں لانے کا سوال نہیں ہے - ورکرس کے لئے ایک نیا مستقبل ایک نئی روشنی پیدا کرنے کا سوال ہے جتنے بھی وی آر ایس کے فیصلے کئے گئے ہیں آوٹ آف دی وے جا کر فیصلے ہوئے ہیں - ہم ورکرس کو سڑکوں پر لا کر کھڑا کرنا نہیں چاہتے ہیں اس لئے میں ملک سے اور اس سدن سے بھی کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ اگر ہم اس ملک کا پیسہ لگاتے ہیں تو ہمیں اس پیسے کا ریٹرن چاہیئے - ورکرس کو کام ملنا چاہیئے - لیکن یہ پروڈکٹیو ایمپلائمنٹ ہونا چاہیئے، یہ میری گزارش ہے - آپکا بہت بہت شکریہ جو آپنے مجھے برداشت کیا - لیکن ہم اس راستے پر چل پڑے ہیں اور چلتے ہی رہیں گے - "ختم شد"]

† [] Transliteration in Arabic Script.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): Shri Jibon Roy and Shri Gurudas Das Gupta are not here. Now we shall take up the clarifications on the statement made by the Minister of Industry.

RE: CALL GIVEN BY NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC SECTOR TRADE UNIONS

For strike on 11th December, 1998

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES (Goa): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, sufficient notice was not given to the House to make the statement. We have got a copy of the statement made by the hon. Minister.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister has appealed to the workers to withdraw the strike. Some of the constituents of this Government, the Trinamul Congress in West Bengal and the AIADMK in Tamil Nadu, are taking part in this agitation. I am told that even the trains will be stopped tomorrow. There will be a *rail roko*. I want to know whether the Government has discussed this matter in the Cabinet because in the Indian system of democracy the Government is a responsible Government. The AIADMK is part of the Government. Its Ministers are there in the Government. The very same constituent is supporting this agitation. This afternoon the hon. Minister has requested the workers to withdraw the strike. I would like to know whether any decision has been taken. When you took the decision to scrap eight public sector units, was it an arbitrary decision of your Ministry or of the Government?

Secondly, I think this is basically related to the closure. It is there in the National Agenda for Governance, in para 11, "we will work for eradication of unemployment". *Berozgari* is also there. But you are going to create unemployment of 10,000 people by your action of closing these units. Is it a fact that the State Government of Haryana has imposed section 144 of the IPC throughout the State? I think they are also in ally of your Government. I would like to know whether this is the way the Central Government is going to scuttle the voice of the people and the workers.

SHRI S.M. KRISHNA (Karnataka): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the point which prompted him to come out with a statement was the situation created in Haryana. Section 144 of the IPC has been clamped down and certain preventive arrests have been made in Haryana under the various draconian laws which have been enacted in the State. But there is no word about Haryana in the statement. The provocation was only about the situation in Haryana.

SHRI JIBON ROY (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir,... (*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI): Do you want to seek clarifications now? I thought you had foreclosed your option.

SHRI JIBON ROY: No, Sir.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, it is kind of him that in response to the submissions made by me in the morning the Minister has made a statement and he has requested the workers to call off the strike on 11th December. I have raised other issues also and he has not responded to them. An issue which I raised was that since yesterday evening a kind of an emergency situation is prevailing in Haryana. A lot of people have been arrested. Section 144 has been imposed and ESMA has been clamped. They were arresting people till morning. We have come to know that similar steps are being taken by the Uttar Pradesh Government and the Maharashtra Government. We would like to have an assurance from the hon. Minister that no more people would be arrested. It is nice that the hon. Minister has made a statement. Would the Minister give an assurance that even if the unions do not